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[ONE PENNY.]

THE AWFUL CONVULSIONS OF NATURE.

THE Western and Eastern Oceans have been successively visited, within a period of a few days, by three of the most extraordinary and terrible devastations upon record. First, there was the fearful hurricane among the islands about St. Thomas, bursting from the south-west across the Caribbean waters with a fury which the navigators of that sea declare would blow down a city as though it were built with cards. In the grasp of that awful gale circling round St. Thomas, the largest ships, ponderous they might be and governed by powerful machinery, aided by the highest class of seamanship, were more helpless than fishing craft in an ordinary storm, and were either drawn into the vortex or flung ashore like coracles. We are as yet without the full story of this melancholy disaster, and can well imagine the anxiety of those at home, and especially at Southampton—the principal port of the West Indian mail traffic—to learn how the calamity began and ended. Less ruinous, though not less mighty, was the hurricane which has just raged over the Indian Ocean and the China Sea, strewing them with wreck, heaping the roadsteads and harbours with destruction, and literally, in many instances,

tearing the small towns and villages along the coast from their foundations. But neither catastrophe approaches in its magnitude and horror that which, unless the report be incredibly exaggerated, has swallowed up in a volcanic abyss the island of Tortola, in the Virgin Group—an old possession of Great Britain—with a population of eight or nine thousand souls. Where figures are used thus roundly there may always be hope that they are overstated, but should the simple fact be established that the island, the huge mass of mountain, with a length of seventeen miles and a width of four, with lofty ridges and peaks sprinkled in their lofty clefts by, at any rate, several thousands of inhabitants, has actually disappeared beneath the billows, language fails to suggest the terrors of the scene. Well might the people think that the Great Day had indeed come, as the island foundered with them. And yet we are so accustomed to hear, from that region and the East, of disasters vast and sweeping, due to the tremendous energies of nature, that, though our amazement may be excited when the first impulse to incredulity has passed away, there is, in the facts of the subject, no legitimate ground for disbelief. Those Western and Eastern oceans are the homes, so to speak,

of strange, huge, irresistible forces, which every now and then break loose, when nothing that man contrives seems capable of resisting them. We feel some compensation for our uncertain climate and colder seasons, our less exuberant soil and more murky skies, when remembering the prodigious scale upon which these tempests of wind, and fire, and water seem to rush out of the dazzling heavens, or leap from under the peaceful waters, with a fierceness and rapidity that the world is stricken while it is still bewildered. The city of Manilla, in the rich evening sunset of that latitude, thronged with festal crowds, chanting the hymns of a saint's day, and utterly tranquil, and the city of Manilla, before the going down of the sun, dark with dust, lightened only by the glare of flame actually springing from the waters of the bay, a mass of shattered dwellings, a grave of ten thousand victims. We can hardly say that Europe, apart, perhaps, from the fate of Pompeii and Herculaneum, has ever known such natural tragedies, for its avalanches, land-slips, its thunder and lightnings, and even its storms, are generally insignificant in comparison with those of the more highly charged soils and atmospheres of the tropics and of Asia.



FOX HUNTING.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

PARLIAMENT was opened on Tuesday by Commission, when the following speech was read by the Lord Chancellor:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

In again applying to you for your advice and assistance, I regret that I have found it necessary to call for your attendance at an unusual, and probably to many of you, an inconvenient season.

The Sovereign of Abyssinia, in violation of all international law, continues to hold in captivity several of my subjects, some of whom have been especially accredited to him by myself, and his persistent disregard of friendly representations has left me no alternative but that of making a peremptory demand for the liberation of my subjects and supporting it by an adequate force.

I have accordingly directed an expedition to be sent for that purpose alone, and I confidently rely on the support and co-operation of my Parliament in my endeavour at once to relieve their countrymen from an unjust imprisonment, and to vindicate the honour of my Crown.

I have directed that papers on the subject shall be forthwith laid before you.

I receive from all foreign Powers assurances of their friendly feelings, and I see no reason to apprehend the disturbance of the general peace of Europe.

A band of Italian volunteers, without authority from their own Sovereign, having invaded the Papal territory, and threatened Rome itself, the Emperor of the French felt himself called upon to despatch an expedition for the protection of the Sovereign Pontiff and his dominions; that object having been accomplished, and the defeat and dispersion of the volunteer force having relieved the Papal territory from the danger of external invasion, I trust that his Imperial Majesty will find himself enabled, by an early withdrawal of his troops, to remove any possible ground of misunderstanding between his Majesty's Government and that of the King of Italy.

The treasonable conspiracy commonly known as Fenianism, baffled and repressed in Ireland, has assumed in England the form of organized violence and assassination. These outrages require to be rigorously put down; and I rely for their effectual suppression upon the firm administration of the law, and the loyalty of the great mass of my subjects.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

The estimates for the ensuing year are in the course of preparation, and will in due time be laid before you. They will be framed with a view to economy and to the necessary requirements of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

As a necessary sequel to the legislation of last session, bills will be laid before you for amending the Representation of the People in Scotland and Ireland.

I have reason to believe that the Commissioners appointed to inquire into and report upon the boundaries of existing boroughs, as well as of the proposed divisions of counties and newly-enfranchised boroughs, have made considerable progress in their inquiries, and no time will be lost after the receipt of their report in laying before you their recommendations for your consideration and decision.

A Bill will also be presented to you for the more effectual prevention of Bribery and Corruption at Elections.

The Public Schools Bill, which has already been more than once submitted to Parliament, will again be laid before you.

The general question of the education of the people requires your most serious attention, and I have no doubt you will approach the subject with a full appreciation both of its vital importance and its acknowledged difficulty.

Measures will be submitted to you during the present session for amending and consolidating the various Acts relating to the mercantile marine.

The exemption which the country has now for some time enjoyed from the cattle plague affords a favourable opportunity for considering such permanent enactments as may relieve the home trade from such vexatious restrictions and facilitate the introduction under due regulation, of foreign cattle for home consumption.

Measures for the amendment of the law, which have been deferred under the pressure of more urgent business, will be submitted for your consideration.

Other questions apparently calling for legislative action have been referred to commissioners, whose reports, as they shall be received, shall without delay be laid before Parliament.

It is my earnest prayer that all your deliberations may be guided as to conduce to the general contentment and happiness of my people.

After a short adjournment both Houses re-assembled in the evening. In the House of Lords the Address, in reply to the Speech, was moved by Earl Brownlow and seconded by Lord Hylton. After a short debate, at the close of which the Earl of Derby defended the policy of the Abyssinian expedition, the Address was agreed to, and their lordships adjourned.

In the House of Commons the Address was moved by Mr. Hart Dyke, and seconded by Colonel Hogg. Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli, Lord Stanley, and other members took part in the debate which followed, the chief points discussed being the Abyssinian expedition and the late invasion of the Papal States. The Address was agreed to *nem. con.*

THE IRISH CLERGY AND THE GOVERNMENT.—The Dublin Freeman's Journal re-publishes from a Roman paper a note addressed to it on the 2nd inst. by Monsignor Nardi, of the Papal Court, denying that he was sent by the Roman Government to Ireland to make known to Cardinal Cullen and the Irish bishops "that the Holy Father would see no insuperable impediments in the acceptance by the Irish clergy of some pension from the Government." He does not deny that he was in Ireland, but he "had neither a mission to discharge nor any counsels to communicate;" he had only to satisfy his ardent desire of seeing a country which he loved before he saw it, and now loves and admires much more. If he should presume to give any counsel, it would be precisely the opposite of that imputed to him; for he judged it always a lamentable thing that the clergy should be salaried by Government, and such a salary would be a thousand times more lamentable "when derived from a Protestant Government which has done all in its power to root out the Catholic faith from Ireland."

SYMPATHY WITH THE POPE.—Cardinal Cullen presided on Saturday at a meeting of the Roman Catholics of Dublin, Kildare, and Wicklow, in Marlborough-street Cathedral, to express sympathy with Pope Pius IX., "abhorrence of the wicked invasion of the remaining portion of his dominions," and the determination to use every influence at their command to support him in his present difficulties. The requisition for the meeting, which was fairly attended, was signed, among others, by Lord French; Mr. E. More O'Ferrall, and Mr. W. H. F. Cogan, M.P., privy councillors; Sir James Power, M.P., and Mr. Myles W. O'Reilly, M.P.

ORDINARY LUCIFER MATCHES.—The Secretary of the Sun Fire Insurance Office, stated to the Commons' Select Committee on Fires of last session, that he considers that carelessness in using ordinary lucifer matches causes to that office a loss of £10,000 a year. Surely statements of this kind should induce everyone to use only BRYANT & MAY'S Patent Safety Matches, which are not poisonous, and light only on the box. These Safety Matches are very generally sold by Grocers, Oilmen, &c.

COURT AND SOCIETY.

It is announced that the Government have resolved to resume the storm signals, devised by the late Admiral Fitzroy.

THERE are between seventy and eighty candidates for the Additional B.A. examination, more commonly known as the "Post Mortem," which began at Cambridge last week.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS the Princess of Wales, attended by Viscountess Walden, has been able to take several drives in the neighbourhood of Sandringham. Her Royal Highness's health progresses favourably.

PROF. MORLEY has retired from the editorial chair of the Examiner; a post which he had occupied for several years. Our contemporary is understood to have come under the direction of an eminent M.P., who is still more eminent as a writer.

At the Oxford Union Debating Society on Thursday evening, the question was, "It is the opinion of this house that horse-racing, as at present carried on, is unworthy of the support of Englishmen." On a division, sixty voted in favour of the motion, and ten against; the motion being therefore carried by a majority of fifty.

We have seen a statement which has appeared in some of our contemporaries to the effect that Vice Chancellor Wood contemplates resigning his office at the close of the year. We are aware that a rumour to that effect gained some currency in the profession just before the last long vacation, and we believe the statement in question to have been founded in a rumour and nothing better.

AMONG other theatrical rumours is one that Mr. Fechter has been invited to assume the stage management of the Adelphi, and that Mrs. Scott-Siddons will shortly appear at the New Queen's Theatre.—It is odd, in juxtaposition with the last, to read that Mr. Wigan may possibly hand over his new house to Mr. Gye for opera buffa. On glancing over some provincial papers, the "run" of the "Tempest," in more than one place, is to be noticed.

A MARBLE bust of the late Mr. Joseph Hume has been placed in the House of Commons library. The bust was presented to the House by his widow, and has been placed in the library by permission of the House. It was taken in 1825, and was sculptured by Mr. Ritchie, of Edinburgh. The following is the simple inscription:—"Joseph Hume. Born January 22, 1777. Died February 20, 1855."

THE missing Liverpool solicitor is Mr. William Stockley, the senior member of the firm of Stockley, Wrigley, and Stockley, and he has been adjudicated a bankrupt. The act of bankruptcy was the alleged abdicating of the debtor. The petitioning creditor is a lady, who is stated to have deposited a considerable amount in trust moneys with the bankrupt's firm, which the bankrupt, without the knowledge of his partners, contrived to appropriate, together with other sums, amounting, it is said, in all to about £40,000.

THE Prince of Wales, attended by General Sir William Knollys, Major G. H. Grey, Major Teesdale, Mr. H. Fisher, and Mr. Holzman, attended divine service at Sandringham Church on Sunday. The Rev. W. L. Onslow, the rector, preached the sermon from 1 Peter, chap. v., verse 7, "Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you." The hymns were sung to the music of the Austrian national airs, "Belmont," and "The Princess." (Captain Shaw Helliwell.) The musical responses in the Holy Communion service were by Dr. Warren. The Princess of Wales did not attend the service, Dr. Paget deeming it a little too cold for her Royal Highness to go out into the air.

ON Saturday morning at eleven o'clock, Her Majesty the Queen, with her Royal Highness Princess Louise, attended by Major-General Seymour, C.B., General Sir T. M. Biddulph, and the lady in waiting, left Windsor Castle en route for Sevenoaks, Kent. The object of the Queen's trip was for the purpose of visiting Lord Delawarr, whose country seat is in the vicinity. After luncheon Her Majesty left and drove back to Sevenoaks station shortly after three o'clock, and returned in the special train by the same route to Windsor. The Queen travelled in a saloon carriage provided by the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company, which was attached to a Great Western train for the part of the journey lying within the jurisdiction of the latter company.

THE Times, in announcing the death of Madame de Flahault, says:—"We have to announce the death of a lady who has for nearly sixty years borne a very prominent part in the highest society of Europe. Mies Mercer Elphinstone, daughter of Admiral Lord Keith, who for a large period of the war with France commanded in the Mediterranean, was born in 1788, and the few contemporaries who still survive will remember her as the friend and confidante of the Princess Charlotte of Wales. Nothing would have seemed more improbable than that the daughter of a British Admiral who had passed the whole of his distinguished career in active service against the French should have allied herself with a French officer equally distinguished in the service of France, and who had attained the high honour of being attached as aide-de-camp to the person of the Emperor Napoleon during the Moscow and Waterloo campaigns. Compelled to leave France, however, upon the restoration of the Bourbons, M. de Flahault, who had been educated in England, took refuge in this country, and in 1817 he married the lady who died on Tuesday last, in Paris, at his official residence as Chancellor of the Legion of Honour. As Mmes. de Flahault, she was Ambassadress of France under the Orleans dynasty at Rome and at Vienna, and for a short time filled the same position in England while M. de Flahault most appropriately represented the Second Empire at the Court of St. James's. Mmes. de Flahault has left two daughters, the Dowager Marchioness of Lansdowne and Mdlle. de Flahault. Lady Lansdowne succeeds to the Barony of Nairne, which, with that of Keith, Mdlle. de Flahault held in her own right."

At the Shire Hall Nottingham, on Saturday, Sir Robert Jukes Clifton, Bart., of Clifton Hall, near Nottingham, late M.P., was summoned for assaulting John Tyers, his gardener, on the previous Sunday. Mr. Lees appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Cranch for the defendant. The hon. baronet was present. The court was crowded, and great interest was evinced in the proceedings. John Tyers, on being examined, said he had been in the employ of the Clifton family since 1819. He went to Clifton Hall last Sunday morning about half-past nine o'clock, to take some vegetables. On coming back from the hall he overtook Sir R. Clifton, who was in company with a person named Marsh. Sir Robert said to him (complainant), "You must deliver up the garden keys and the keys of the apple-room." Witness replied that he should want his money before he left. Sir Robert repeated that complainant must give the keys up, and complainant rejoined that he would do so before he went away. Upon this Sir Robert said he would make him go away, took hold of his throat, shook him very much, and tore his shirt and waistcoat. Sir Robert then left hold of him, but shortly afterwards struck him on the side of the head and kicked him. Complainant then went away towards his own house. Sir Robert then shouted to Mr. Southgate, and he, with four others, went and turned complainant's goods out of his house into the street. Witness had not said anything to Sir Robert but what he had stated in court. There was no person present except Mr. Marsh, a ground viewer, in the service of Sir Robert. In cross-examination by Mr. Cranch, witness said he remembered last Thursday night week (alluding to the time when he and other servants of the hall crossed the Trent at Clifton to spend the evening at a public-house at Beeston without asking Sir Robert's permission). The Bench decided that a slight assault had been committed under great provocation, and the hon. baronet was fined 1s. without costs.

HOME AND DOMESTIC.

ON Friday, at Holyhead, nearly the entire population turned out to witness a gentleman walking on the water in the harbour on large shoes, like snow-shoes. He did not at any time sink below the knee, and smoked a pipe.

THE following touching proposal appears as an advertisement in the Lincoln Mercury:—"A Widow Lady, having a small Advowson or Presentation at command, may bear of a Home by applying to D.D., — York. A carte should be sent."

THE decision of the executive as to the recent escape of Captain Osborne, alias O'Brien, from Clonmel gaol is curiously weak. The Earl of Mayo has written to Mr. Bagnell, M.P., chairman of the Board of Superintendence of that prison, directing the board to dismiss two of the sub-warders, and to fine the governor and the head-warder of the gaol to the extent of at least a quarter's salary.

A SOMEWHAT serious accident occurred on Saturday, on the London and North-Western Railway. A passenger train belonging to the Great Western Company ran at a velocity of thirty miles per hour into a heavy goods train, smashing several of the carriages and seriously injuring ten persons, two of whom are not expected to recover. The cause of the mishap is clearly some mismanagement of the road traffic at the junction where it happened.

As the first up train from Crediton on Friday last was nearing the Newton St. Cyres Station to stop it was by some mistake turned on to the broad gauge rails, which run side by side with those of the narrow gauge. The train thus got completely off the track, blocking up the line. Fortunately the train was going slowly, and was brought to a standstill without tearing up the permanent way to any considerable extent, or causing serious injury to the passengers, though some of them were severely shaken. Mr. J. Tyler, traffic superintendent of Queen-street Station, Exeter, was telegraphed for, and was speedily on the spot with a large body of men, but the line was not cleared for traffic for several hours, the passengers and luggage being transferred from one train to another at the point of obstruction.

A DEPUTATION, appointed at a meeting held on Sunday on Clerkenwell-green, went to the Home Office on Monday to present a memorial to Mr. Gathorne Hardy on behalf of the four Fenians under sentence of death in Manchester. The Home Secretary declined to receive the deputation, but expressed his willingness to consider any memorial that might be forwarded to him. Upon this a Mr. Finlen, who was at the head of the deputation, forced his way into an ante-room, and speeches of a violent character made. At length they were ejected. Such tumultuous and unseemly violence can only have one intention, that of intimidating the Government into pardoning the culprits; but it must appear to every man who does not sympathise with Fenianism that it is more likely to defeat than to gain its object.

ON Friday morning a violent explosion of gas occurred at the Bolton-street Station, Bury. A lady called the attention of the ticket collector to a strong smell of gas issuing from the first-class waiting-room. Lord, the collector, got on to the table and struck a match. The explosion immediately occurred, blowing out two of the windows, and breaking the door of the room into splinters. The young lady, who was standing at the door, was thrown to the ground, but, beyond a few bruises, she received no serious injury. A porter going to the assistance of Lord was also knocked down by the force of the explosion, but received no injuries. He found Lord in the next room to that in which the explosion took place. He had received some very serious burns about his face and hands, and it is thought he will lose his sight. The escape of gas is supposed to have arisen from the want of water in the water slide of the gaselier.

ON Saturday the iron-masters in the North of England gave notice to their men of another reduction in wages. For a considerable time past the manufactured iron trade has been in a very depressed state, and, in fact, since the unfortunate dispute about wages last year, when thousands of men on the Tyne and the Tees were thrown out of employment for eighteen weeks, another reduction has frequently been talked of. The notices now issued are rather vague, as will be seen from the following copy of what has been posted in the most extensive ironworks in the north:—"Bolckow, Vaughan, Co. (Limited), Middlesbrough, regret that, owing to the increased depression in the iron trade, a further reduction of wages is necessary, and will be made from and after the 7th day of December next. The proposed new rates will be made known as soon as possible, and any further information required may be had on application to the several agents of departments." The notices in other works are very similar to this, but it is generally understood that the reduction will be equal to 10 per cent., which, however, will not apply to men receiving small wages, at present.

MARIOLATRY.

THE account given by a correspondent of the Mariolatrous extravagances which he witnessed in certain parts of France will have surprised to one who is familiar with the ways of the more ignorant Catholic peasantry in any continental country where the latest tendencies are aroused by any fresh reports of supernatural interferences. It is, however, very desirable that in attacking them controversially there should be no misconception of the actual dogmas of the Roman Church herself in the matter; for it is the universal practice of ingenious polemics to explain away these and other absurdities by contrasting them with the professed Tridentine decrees. These foolish pictures, which represent the Virgin Mary as apparently flying about from place to place, to work miracles of healing on behalf of her votaries, would undoubtedly be excused on the ground that they are only symbolical expressions of her readiness to hear all petitions, and are by no means in opposition to the Catholic dogma that it is only by praying for her "clients" to the Almighty that she is able to give them what they wish. And it is upon this point that a controversial attack, to be successful, should be steadily directed. The laxity with which the Roman clergy permit their professed doctrine to be turned practically into something like a resurrection of the old Pagan worship of demi-gods cannot, of course, be too severely reprehended. The character of that theology, again, which represents Christ as being of fierce wrath, softened by the intercession of Mary, is really identical with the popular theology of a grievously large majority of English Protestants, and it is only by recognizing the identity that its effects abroad can be fairly estimated. Popular Roman Mariolatry in this case simply carries out in the case of Jesus Christ precisely that theory of the Divine nature which some hold to be "orthodox" amongst ourselves. Horrible and shocking as it is to the English traveller to see the founder of Christianity exhibited as striking down miserable men and women in his anger, there is not a shade of difference between the theology which thus betrays its true nature and that which resounds every Sunday from thousands of British pulpits which denounce Popery as idolatrous and soul-destroying. Popular Romanism and popular Protestantism are very much alike in their fundamental ideas of the Author of Nature, and no theological reform can be complete which does not strike at the very root of the evil.—*Full Mail Gazette.*

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—Dr. H. James, the retired physician, continues to send by post, free of charge, to all who desire it, the copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physician and despaired of by her father. Sent free to all on receipt of one stamp.—Address, O. P. BROWN, Secretary, No. 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London.—[Advrt.]

METROPOLITAN.

It is said that the famous dance-scene will not form a part of the "Grande Duchesse" at Covent Garden. Other omissions are spoken of.

On Saturday night a fire broke out in the Camberwell-road. Two steam fire engines were proceeding to the scene of the disaster when on passing a brewer's dray the horses drawing it became frightened at the flames from the funnels, and whilst plunging they knocked down an old man named Lovegrove. The wheels passed over his chest and caused instant death.

At the Central Criminal Court the "lady," who, under the designation of the Hon. Geraldine Maurice lived in great style in Dorsetshire upon the plunder of the London West-end shopkeepers was tried. The reporter describes her to be a very common place looking person, although somewhat prepossessing in appearance; but probably owed something of the success of her nefarious operations to the poetical and distinguished name she assumed. She was convicted and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

A CROWDED call meeting took place before Mr. Church, at the Rolls Chambers, in the winding-up of the Commercial Bank of India. Mr. Holyland was the liquidator. The debts exceeded £1,000,000, and the creditors had been paid 10s. in the pound, and wanted the balance. It was stated as a remarkable fact that since the matter had been before the Court firms in India and elsewhere had failed, owing the bank no less a sum than £950,000. A call was, therefore, imperative.

LAST week a very gentlemanly-looking man, name and address unknown, staying at Cambridge, at the Lion Hotel, was found dead in bed, having died by his own hand. When discovered a small pistol was found by his side, and on the table were some caps and powder, showing the act must have been premeditated. On examination of his clothes no clue as to where he came from could be found, there being no papers upon him or marks upon his linen by which he could be identified. He is apparently twenty-seven years of age, and the condition of his hands showed that he had not been accustomed to any menial occupation.

ON Tuesday night about a quarter past nine o'clock a fire of a disastrous character broke out on the premises of Mr. Richards, Alexandra Coffee House, London-road, Borough. It was first discovered by a neighbour opposite, who seeing smoke gushing from the roof, immediately gave the alarm. Fortunately only one lodger had retired to rest, and the business of the shop was still going on. The engines from Kennington-lane, Waterloo-road, &c., arrived in quick succession, but by this time the flames had taken firm hold of the upper part of the building. With a plentiful supply of water, the engines soon got into full play, and by half-past ten the fire was completely extinguished.

AN inquest has been held in Church-street, Mile-end, on the body of Joseph Chenery, aged 45 years. On the 8th of August the deceased was removed to the Whitechapel Workhouse from the Derwentwater, a vessel in the St. Katharine Docks, in which he had been sent home as destitute from St. Helena. He was in a very filthy and destitute condition. He died in the workhouse on Tuesday last. A post mortem examination showed that he had received a blow on the head, and that a tumour had formed at the base of the brain. Three ribs were broken, but they had united. The spleen was torn half across, and it was evident that he had been subjected to very rough treatment some months ago. A verdict of "Death from injury to the head; but how caused there was no evidence to show," was recorded.

A DARING adventure, which hardly seems to have been feloniously intended, occupied the attention of Mr. Alderman Lusk at the Mansion-house for some time on Saturday. A Mr. Rogers left a light spring cart, drawn by a high-spirited mare, at his office door, in Lower Thames-street, at about three o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. On returning in two or three minutes the vehicle had disappeared, and although men were sent in various directions nothing could be heard of it. About midnight a boy of 15, named Pritchard, was found in charge of the cart and horse at Shorne, near Gravesend, and four little boys were lying fast asleep inside the cart. Pritchard says that he got into the vehicle for a ride, and drove towards Deptford, but lost his way. He asked the other boys to have a ride, and all five were nearly furnished for want of food. A coat and other things belonging to Mr. Rogers were found safe. The prisoner was remanded.

ON Sunday morning a new order of services was inaugurated in All Saints', Lambeth, which has recently been placed under the ministerial charge of the Rev. F. G. Lee, the editor of the "Directorium Anglicanum." The church is situated in the Lower Marsh, a neighbourhood which has a dense population, and in which nearly all the shops are open for business during the whole of Sunday mornings. A few months since the incumbency became vacant, and Dr. Lee was presented to it. The church was at once closed, and active preparations were at once commenced for giving effect to the highest of High Church ceremonial. At eleven o'clock a procession entered the church, consisting of between 50 and 60 surpliced choristers, men and boys, headed by Mr. Batty, with six or eight clergymen, and the prayers were intoned. The sermon was preached by Archdeacon Denison, who stood in the sacristy, the pulpit having been dispensed with in the alterations which have been made, from Prov. ii. 6, "The Lord giveth wisdom." He gave a description of the Church as he said it should be, and contended that the Church was the only remedy for the evils that afflicted the world. It would be vain, he urged, to read the Bible without the help of the Church; at the same time he warned his hearers against allowing it to be supposed that they desired to put the Church above the Bible. Both should be maintained in their integrity. On leaving the church the congregation had to encounter ten or a dozen men who were haranguing in the street against Popery. Special services, with sermons by preachers of eminence, were arranged for every day in the present week.

WE strongly urge the right of orphan girls of seamen and marines to participate in the benefits of Greenwich Hospital. Both legally and morally their claim is indisputable, and we are glad to find that it is to be urged upon the attention of the House of Commons, a petition to that assembly being now in course of signature, both at Portsmouth and at Plymouth. We do not know where the petition is at present lying for signature, but will endeavour to ascertain by next week. The petition is as follows:—"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom in Parliament assembled. The humble petition of the undersigned widows of seamen and marines of her Majesty's navy sheweth that, whereas the charter of 1694 of Greenwich Hospital enacts among other purposes that it is 'for the sustentation of the widows and the maintenance and education of the children of seamen happening to be slain or disabled in sea service; and whereas the Act of 1696 (7th and 8th William III., c. 21), states that the widows and children of such seamen as shall happen to be slain, killed, or drowned in sea service may in some reasonable manner be provided for and educated; and whereas this provision is repeated in Act of 1703 2d and 3d Anne, c. 6, and that whereas these statutes provide for the maintenance and education of the orphaned children of seamen without distinction of sex, entitling girls equally with boys to the privileges of the hospital, and that girls at present derive no benefit whatever, and that widows of seamen with families of girls only are thus deprived of that assistance which widows having sons receive. Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable house will be pleased to apportion some part of the funds of the said hospital for the maintenance of such orphan girls either in the establishment of an asylum or to supplement the funds of existing charitable institutions, or in such way as to your honourable house shall seem most fit; and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray."

PROVINCIAL.

It is stated that a loan for £3,000,000 is likely to be brought forward shortly for New South Wales. Should it be offered to the public it will, it is believed, come through the Committee of Australian Bankers, who usually negotiate the operation.

DESPITE the dreary prognostications of failure indulged in by its detractors, Shrewsbury was a splendid success, Mr. Fraill's good fortune outweighing a combination of obstacles, of which wretched opening and closing weather were perhaps the least prominent. Even, however, in the absence of the "plungers," whose ranks were so terribly broken last year, sport of unexampled quality for November was carried on, a rather tame commencement on Monday being followed up by fields of Ascut proportion. Luck fluctuated between backers and bootmakers, the "talent" having a slight pull throughout, and the spoils were pretty fairly distributed.

THE difficulties do not appear to decrease in the recovery of the bodies in the Ferndale colliery. The first and second headings on the north side of the Rhondda heading were attempted to be cleared, but the gas in them was found to be so abundant that they were again obliged to be closed up to clear the gas from the main heading that had been forced in it from the cross headings. The number of falls that have taken place necessarily decreases the in-take of fresh air from the downcast shaft, and consequently some 10,000 cubic feet less per minute is passing over the furnace. It has been computed that there are 60 to 65 widows by this disaster, and 120 children under twelve years of age. Active steps are being taken in many quarters for their relief.

SOME excitement was caused in Dublin by a report that a serious explosion had occurred in the buildings attached to the court in Green-street, where the commission is sitting for the trial of Fenian prisoners. At first it was attributed to a Fenian source, and for some time that disturbing idea existed throughout the city. The accident, however, was caused by an accumulation of gas in an apartment next to the sleeping rooms lately fitted up for the juries. The moment the servant entered to light a fire the explosion took place, destroying the roof and scorching the walls, tearing down large portions of lath and plaster, shattering the furniture, carrying out the window frames, and even injuring the windows on the other side of a wide street. The woman escaped unhurt. One juror who was in the dressing-room had a narrow escape.

AN alarming accident happened on Thursday on the premises of Messrs. M'Guffog, cotton manufacturers, Preston. At the rear of the establishment there are two lodges or reservoirs for warm water. One of the lodges is a new one; and about six weeks ago it burst on the western side through the breaking of an iron pipe. Since then the contractor has repaired the breach, and on Thursday steps were again taken for filling it. The lodge is about 57 feet long, 37 feet broad, and 7 feet deep. When the water had got to about a foot from the top the northern wall of the lodge, which is about 14 feet high, 5 feet 6 inches broad at the foundations, and 3 feet at the top, gave way in the centre; an aperture about 18 feet wide and reaching from the bottom to the top of the walls was made, and through it all the water rushed with great impetuosity. Nine of the houses in Garlick-street, a thoroughfare which runs into Aqueduct-street, were flooded; a cellar belonging to Mr. W. Dawson was also flooded, and about 500 cwt. of cotton cloth were damaged.

FOX HUNTING.

THE first Monday in November is always the time-honoured fixture of Kirby Gate. The custom of opening the season at this place dates from Mr. Meynell's time. He originally began at Brookby Gate, but altered the meet eventually to Kirby Gate. Brookby Gate is itself a thing of the past, though Brookby Hall continues to be a most favourite fixture. Towards the middle of Mr. Meynell's reign Melton Mowbray was first recognised as the most eligible of meeting quarters. Originally Loughborough was the headquarters of the "customers" of that period, but Melton was discovered to be infinitely more central, as it commanded, then as now, the best of the Belvoir and Cottesmore fixtures, as well as all of the Quorn that was worth having. Time and increased civilization have, aided by railroads and scientific agriculture, altered a little the state of things. The first idea of canals caused great consternation amongst fox-hunters, and not without reason, for they are a decided nuisance. Railways, however, are another thing. These considerations we fancy did not occupy the thoughts of many of the field which assembled at Kirby Gate, on November 4th, 1867. The morning was remarkably fine, too much so in fact; but the scene was a most gratifying one to the eye of a sportsman, who could hardly complain of the sunshine which made the scene so cheerful, however great might be his fears concerning scent. The stamp of horse, the brilliant appearance of the pack, and their numerous attendants (five scarlets strong), are all things which are not to be seen out of "the shires." So also is the interest taken in the proceedings of the day by the whole population, clerical, commercial, and agricultural.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA'S SPEECH.

KING WILLIAM is like that important functionary of whom the "Roving Englishman in Turkey" tells us, who appeared before the bewildered Pasha in a variety of blue, white, and green uniforms, personifying now the French, now the Austrian, now the Russian Consul. King William has within the last few months stood before an assembly composed in the main of the same persons, in the different capacities of King of Old Prussia, King of New Prussia, and President of the North German Confederacy. At this present juncture he addresses especially the members annexed to his monarchy by "the great events of a recent epoch"—that is, the representatives of Hanover, Electoral Hesse, Schleswig-Holstein, Nassau, and Frankfurt. These have become Prussians, yet on conditions somewhat different from those of Brandenburg, Pomerania, and other members of the original Prussian family, though they assemble with them in a great Prussian Diet or Parliament. There is another set of so-called independent States, such as Saxony, the Mecklenburgs, the Hanseatic cities of Hamburg, Bremen, and Lubeck, all the small fry of Saxon and Thuringian Principalities, and part of Grand-Ducal Hesse, which have no direct connection with the Prussian monarchy, but are joined to it by the bond of Federal Union, and their deputies come together with those of all the Prussian provinces, old and new, in the North German Federal Diet. Finally, there are the other no less nominally independent Southern States, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Baden, and the other part of Grand-Ducal Hesse, which have nothing to do either with Old or New Prussia, and nothing to do with the North German Confederacy, but are yet brought together with both Prussia and North Germany by compact of military and diplomatic alliance and of commercial union, and these send their representatives to sit with those of the Universal North German Union whenever matters concerning the common Customs' League are brought on for discussion. As regards the rest of the world, King William now appears before the Chambers with the olive branch. What he may possibly mean with respect to the Papal question it is not given to us to understand. Indeed, whoever attempts to touch upon that sore subject seems invariably to wrap himself in an atmosphere of mystery. King William thinks of "the claims of his Catholic subjects, and evinces his care for the dignity and independence of the head of their Church." But what does the King mean by "dignity and independence?" Is he ready to break a lance for the temporal power, and, if so, is he not going to carry coals to Newcastle? Has not the Pope the Chassepot, and is not that as efficient an upholder of Papal dignity as the needle-gun could ever be?—Times.

FOREIGN AND GENERAL.

THE American Commission at Paris have presented to the scientific establishments of that city the valuable collection of specimens of the mineral and chemical productions of the two continents exhibited in their department of the Exposition.

SPAIN has at length been relieved from the incubus of the state of siege. A Royal decree states that the tranquillity of the country is fully restored, and that the state of siege is accordingly removed from all the provinces.

THE "secret society" affair in Paris turns out to be a matter of the slightest importance. The parties arrested were merely persons who had made themselves obnoxious to the Government by certain speeches made by them at the Geneva Congress; and the French have a law subjecting persons to punishment for unpleasant sentiments expressed even in foreign countries.

THE new bon-bon which the Paris confectioners intend introducing for the "jour de l'an" will be styled the "Chassepot," which since the late contest at Mentana, bids fair to give the name to every novelty of Parisian origin, including bonnets, mantles, perfumes, coiffures, new shades of colour, and newly invented dishes.

A PARIS almanac, just published, states that along the Boulevards, between the Madeleine and the Bastille, there are no less than 126 cafes and wine shops, and only seven bakers—this is Falstaff's halfpenny-worth of bread to a gallon of sack to the letter. It appears, moreover, that, although there are no less than thirteen theatres and other places of amusement along the same line of route, there are only two post-offices and three reading-rooms.

THE last new Parisian trifle is the bricche, or bun made in the form of celebrated men and women of the day. During the recent disturbance in the Papal States it is said that the consumption of Garibaldi bricches on the part of the Ultramontanists was only equalled by the number of Pius IX. bricche devoured by the Red Republicans and the Voltairians. The bricche, however, most in general favour is one representing Mlle. Schneider in "La Grande Duchesse de Gerolstein."

THE French Chambers were opened on Monday by the Emperor in person, who delivered the opening Speech from the Throne. After a few prefatory sentences, his Majesty alluded to the disquieting rumours arising out of the unification of Northern Germany, and the general belief that it would become a cause of conflict. To remove this state of inquietude and uncertainty, his Majesty announced that France accepted frankly the changes that had taken place upon the other side of the Rhine, and so long as her interests and her dignity were not threatened she will not interfere in the transformations effected by the wish of the populations. After a few words of congratulation on the success of the Universal Exhibition, the Emperor pointed out that notwithstanding the incontestable pledges of concord that existed, it was the imperative duty of every Government to provide the best means for military defence, and that new, but modified measures with that view, would be laid before the Chambers. The Emperor next alluded to the circumstances under which French troops had been sent to Rome, stated that calm was now nearly re-established in the Papal States, and that consequently the troops would shortly be recalled home, and announced that a proposal had been made to the Powers to assemble in conference to settle the Roman question, and thus to prevent new complications. As to the Eastern question, although some differences existed between the Powers as to the means of bringing about the pacification of Crete, the Emperor announced that they were all agreed on the necessity of maintaining the integrity of the Ottoman Empire and the amelioration of the condition of the Christians. The remainder of the discourse was confined to home topics.

THE REPORTED SUBMERSION OF THE ISLAND OF TORTOLA.

THE Duke of Buckingham has forwarded to us the accompanying copy of a telegram respecting the alleged "submergence" of the island of Tortola which has been received at the Colonial Office from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at New York:—

"New York, Nov. 19, 1867.—Crawford says no particulars; only rumour greatly exaggerated. Letter here from Tortola, 1st inst. says great fire during hurricane 29th."

Admiral Sir R. Munday, commanding on the North American station has been instructed to send a ship of war to the scene of the supposed disaster.

We receive the following from the Foreign Office:—"Her Majesty's Consul at New York reports in telegrams just received that the intelligence respecting destruction of Tortola was received only by the "Herald," and is doubted at New York. The Consul at Havana has informed him that no particulars had been received there, but the rumour was supposed to be greatly exaggerated. A letter dated November 1 had been received at the Havana from Tortola, saying that a great fire had occurred there during the hurricane of the 29th, and mentioning that a family named Sinclair Briart had been drowned."

THE TORNADO AT ST. THOMAS.

OFFICIAL advices from St. Thomas to the British Consul at New York state that all the officers and engineers of the Rhone were lost. Out of 145 passengers 25 were saved, but most of the crew were drowned. Captain Taylor and Mr. Hodgson are amongst the saved from the Wye. The town is almost in ruins. Five steamers and sixty vessels were wrecked, including a French steamer. The loss of lives is estimated at 500 persons.

TURKEY.

It would be well if the recent action on the part of certain individual States as to Turkey were to lead Europe generally to re-consider her position with regard to that Power. That the subject is not one to be treated by a constant succession of half-measures becomes more and more apparent. The Eastern question is no nearer a solution now than it was before the war in the Crimea. The efforts then made by England and France simply resulted in postponing a settlement. The views of Englishmen have greatly changed in the interval, and, since Lord Palmerston's death, there is probably no politician of any importance who believes that Turkey can ever again be an independent and self-sustaining power. She has never had but one function in the European system—that of serving as a barrier, accepted in default of a better, against the progress of Russian aggrandizement, and it is no part of true statesmanship to seek to maintain her in a post for which the course of events is steadily making her less fit.—Chronicle.

THE CONFERENCE.

To confine the Pope to Rome is a solution of the Roman difficulty which is in itself almost impossible, for one cannot believe in Napoleon's disinterestedness, and can be only a temporary one. No State will tolerate for ever a deadly and powerful enemy seated in its capital, controlling a large section of its subjects, urging resistance to its laws, and declaring that its existence is an iniquitous defiance of Revelation. The Papacy must in the long run either accept Italy, or quit Italy, or destroy Italy, and the mere limitation of its secular prerogative is but a very short step towards either of those results. The first alternative is the most probable, believing civilization to be divine, and not devilish, as Rome believes; but one of the three must be accomplished before Italy, Europe, and the world will cease to be harassed by the Roman question. The Conference, should it ever take place, will neither ensure nor greatly advance any one of the three alternatives.—Spectator.

HONEST BOTTLES.

THE observations which we made some time ago in this place regarding the diminished size of the ordinary wine-bottle and the general laxity of wine merchants on the score of measure, has met, intentionally or unintentionally, with a response, at all events in one quarter. The "One Wine Company" is advertising its adhesion to the principle of standard measures and an adoption of the use of imperial pints. We have not been able to fathom the meaning of the company's designation (for it appears to deal in not "one," but many kinds and qualities of wine), but we cannot but applaud its practice. It states that "bottles other than those of imperial measure are made to contain any quantity varying from six to eight to the gallon, according to the will of the wine merchant;" "that there is no law to prevent a wine merchant bottling wine in bottles of such indefinite measure" (and it might have been added calling them "quarts"); that the imperial pint is not only a Government standard measure, but also a very convenient one; and that, therefore, the company intends to adopt it in its business. We recommend the practice to others. The advantage to the customer is obvious. A man in such a case knows exactly what he buys and what he drinks. If he gets his wine per atute pint bottles he cannot be cheated in quantity, and he can

A SOLUTION OF THE CAB DIFFICULTY.

WE believe that the best solution of the cab difficulty is that involved in the proposal to establish different classes of cabs. If we want a good article, we must pay well for it. If we pay badly, we must be content with bad article. We are prepared to pay for our soft cushions and large windows and warm carpets in a first-class railway carriage, and many people will gladly pay higher fares for a better description of street cab. Surely, it is high time that the butcher who carries home from market so many stones of raw meat in a "four-wheeler," and the ladies who go out to dinner, theatre, or concert in hack-carriages should have different descriptions of vehicles at their command. Two classes would suffice; the first class entitled to a double fare, being placed under certain prohibitions as to what they are to carry, and the cheap conveyances being left as they are, for those who wish to pay low prices. A decent conveyance at a reasonable charge would be a great boon to the middle-class people who do not "keep their carriages," and who can hardly afford to resort to the livery stables for broughams or clarences, the drivers of which sometimes expect as much for the job as would pay a cab fare for the distance travelled, without any reference to the charge of the stable-keeper, which is three or four times as much.

THE BLOT ON OUR MILITARY SYSTEM.

FIGURES are notoriously bewildering things, but surely there is a portentous significance in the statistics of mortality in the British army just made public. Under thirty years of age the health of the British soldier is on the average decidedly better than that of men of the same age engaged in civil employment; but after thirty it becomes worse, and the average mortality goes on steadily increasing, as compared with that of civilians to the end of life. What a revelation of the conditions of barrack life have we here! There is really no mystery about the matter at all. The general sanitary condition of nearly all barracks in the United Kingdom is still bad. What is the composition of the various liquors sold to the British private at canteens we may guess from the quality of the beer and spirits supplied to the British civilian in beershops and gin palaces. But, after all, it is in the inevitable break up of the constitution through the prevalence of a terrible disease among our soldiery that the chief explanation of the premature deaths of thousands of once healthy men is to be found. Every doctor tells the same story, and yet the apathy of military officials and the despotism of Exeter Hall clericalism combine to make any thorough reform all but impossible. How long is this to last?



MILAN CATHEDRAL.

judge for himself about quality. It is true that the wine merchant may increase the price of the wine so sold, but the consumer purchases it with his eyes open; he gives a fixed sum for a fixed measure. He does not buy what he thinks to be cheap and find that short measure makes it dear. The movement towards the standard measure, which has been made so largely and successfully in respect of all kinds of bottled beer, is sure to be a popular one, and must therefore be advantageous to the wine merchant who adopts it.—*Pall-Mall Gazette*.

PARIS EXHIBITION.—Gentlemen, before starting for the Continent, should go to JONES & Co's, 73, Long Acre, and purchase one of their Half-Guinea Hats (the Hamilton), new shape, which, for style and durability cannot be equalled.—JONES & Co. Manufacturers, 73, Long Acre.—[ADVT.]

JUST OUT, STEAM ENGINES (Patent), price 1s. 6d. each, of horizontal construction, manufactured entirely of metal fitted with copper boiler, steam pipe, furnace, &c., complete. Will work for hours if supplied with water and fuel. Sent carriage free, safely packed in wooden case, for 24 stamps.—TAYLOR BROTHERS, 21, Norfolk-road, Essex-road, Islington, London. Established 1859, —[ADVT.]

In consequence of the Reduction in Duty, Horniman's Teas are now supplied by the Agents, Eightpence per lb. cheaper. Every genuine packet is signed "Horniman and Co."—[ADVT.]

A SAD CASE.

"AN ex-Confederate Officer," addressing the *Standard*, pleads the cause of Colonel St. Leger Grenfell, an Englishman who, if he has not died of the climate, is at the present moment serving out a sentence of imprisonment for life in the Dry Tortugas. During the late war Grenfell joined the Confederate army, and being a good officer and a brave man soon attained the rank of colonel in the army of Tennessee, where General Bragg appointed him assistant-inspector of cavalry to the force under his command. In 1864 he left the Southern States, was arrested at Chicago, and was there tried for being concerned in a plot to release Confederate prisoners and to burn down the city of Chicago. The Confederate prisoners were not released, and Chicago was not burnt down; nevertheless Grenfell was condemned to death by court-martial for having contemplated these two crimes—which sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life in the Dry Tortugas. "An ex-Confederate Officer" asks whether the British Minister at Washington might not be instructed to plead with the United States Government on behalf of this poor man—if he be still alive. He committed no overt act of murder, incendiarism, or crime; he was merely convicted of having contemplated the commission of such acts. The marvellous absence of rancour which the victors have shown towards the vanquished in the recent American struggle may well lead us to hope that the case of St. Leger Grenfell is one in which mercy to the prostrate may be found to be possible.

THE CADETS AT SANDHURST.—We have received accounts of a series of riots in the village of Yorktown, in which the Sandhurst cadets are stated to have performed the leading parts. If the stories told are not an exaggeration, and if those youths have really committed the outrages described, it is perfectly clear that the management of the college rests in incompetent hands. With an excellent county police, and with the guards at Windsor, it seems incredible that a couple of hundred lads under twenty years of age should have been permitted to remain in a state of insurrection for several days, maltreating individuals, setting fire to houses, smashing in shop fronts, and establishing a reign of terror in the neighbourhood of the college. Discipline has now been restored, and several cadets have been expelled, but we conceive that the authorities ought to move one step further in the right direction. Confide the management of the Sandhurst cadets to a governor who has sufficient nerve and good sense to control them.

A PREJUDICED VIEW.—That pious paper, the *Univers*, takes a desponding view of the prospects of the Garibaldians in the next world, and does not care to conceal its opinion. A correspondent of the *Univers*, describing the aspect of the corpse of a captain of Papal Zouaves slain in the assault of Monte Rotondo, says:—"Still on his lips there was the most graceful smile, and—strange contrast, which powerfully illustrated the difference of the two causes—by the side of this noble young man was stretched the body of a Garibaldian with a red beard, bathed in blood, and with a face which expressed damnation."

THE MANAGEMENT OF LABOUR.

WE do not seem to manage the distribution or circulation of labour well in this country; and the difference between the remuneration of skilled and unskilled workmen would appear to be more than is warranted either by their relative intrinsic values or their relative natural rarity. Within one week the newspapers have mentioned incidentally three facts, which, read in juxtaposition, are by no means satisfactory. In the East of London the number of able-bodied paupers who can obtain no employment, and apparently will have to be supported this winter, as they were last winter, by charity, is described as very formidable, and as increasing at the rate of nearly a thousand a week. In Dorsetshire, and some other purely agricultural counties, the labourers are subsisting on earnings of about 10s. a week for the whole family, and think themselves lucky when they can obtain 12s. At the same time the *Newcastle Chronicle*, in a paragraph headed, "Depression in the Iron Trade," announces the closing of several turnaces and rolling mills, because the workmen refused to accept 6s., 8s., and 10s. per day respectively—out of which, however, they would, of course, have had to pay for some assistance. Mr. Barningham says he could not obtain an order at a price that would be remunerative whilst paying the present wages. He is stated to have asserted that it was his belief that he could keep the mills going during the winter if a reduction in the rate of wages were made, for this would enable him to take orders which were in the market. This reduction is variously stated at from 10 to 25 per cent. Mr. Barningham is understood to have offered to rollers 10s. per day, hammermen 8s. 6d., and puddlers 8s. These amounts have been refused by the men, although it is believed they would not object to some small abatement. Here we have hundreds of men refusing two guineas a week in one district, hundreds or thousands of others glad to get 10s. a week in another, and hundreds or thousands again in a third district unable to earn anything at all.

THE NEW STREET ACT.

A MEETING of cab-drivers has been held at the Cambridge-hall to consider the new Metropolitan Traffic Bill. The chair was taken by Mr. J. S. Groves, who said that, considering the meeting which had been held there a short time since by masters representing 4,000 plates, he thought that the Act must be repealed, as they were all working together. Not a lamp had been seen by him on a London cab since the Act came into operation, and this gave him great confidence. He feared, however, that the Secretary of State would be less lenient after the new year. Mr. Mann, president of the Cab-drivers' Association, said the matter concerned the drivers as well as the masters. The rules of their society had been altered to meet the views of both master and man. The penalties of this Act fell not on the employer but the driver. Mr. G. Mann moved a resolution to the effect that the compulsory use of lamps was obnoxious, because in the winter the oil became thick and would not burn, and the inspection to which they would be liable between sunrise and sunset showed that as the penalty would fall on the driver it could not be enforced without great difficulty and loss. This resolution was passed unanimously. A second resolution, condemning the sixpenny hiring when off the stand, as detrimental to the interests of both masters and drivers, was also passed, as well as a third, declaring that it was unjust to legislate against the cab-drivers and not against more dangerous traffic, and pledging the meeting to resist the Act by every means in their power.



NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

THE Irishmen employed at Chesterfield have effectually purged themselves of complicity with Fenianism. They asked Mr. Markham, the manager of the Staveley Iron Company, to convene a meeting, which he did, and it was held in the Roman Catholic Schoolroom on Monday night. Mr. Markham presided, and two Roman clergymen, the Rev. Father Lee and the Rev. Father Birch, attended, there being present about 600 Irishmen and 200 Englishmen. Father Lee was called upon to open the proceedings, and in doing so he said that he did not wish to take part in any movement which was merely political; but it was wise, he thought, that he should say something to those who looked to him as their priest and pastor. He warned the Irishmen of Chesterfield that if they took part in the work of any secret societies they placed themselves beyond his spiritual jurisdiction. Such societies were strongly denounced by Pope Pius. But though he said this, it was a great pleasure to him to be able to add that he did not believe there was any cause to distrust the Irish of that district. They were, he thought, all loyal and peace-loving men. Father Birch spoke in the same strain. Several other speeches were delivered, many of the speakers being Irish workmen. All denounced Fenianism, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting is of opinion that any movement calculated to destroy confidence and order is most injurious to the interests of the Irish workman, and we pledge ourselves to condemn anything that may lead to a disturbance of the peace"; "That this meeting views with regret the loss of confidence in the minds of some of the inhabitants of Chesterfield in consequence of recent disturbances in different parts of the country, and we pledge ourselves to do all we can in our power to preserve the peace and restore confidence to the town."

THE LATE DISTURBANCES AT OXFORD.

SERIOUS disturbances have taken place in Oxford. They were originated on Saturday by a number of undergraduates, who, coming out from a concert given by Mr. Arthur Lloyd, in the town-hall, attempted, by marching and shouting, to get up a "town and gown" row. A number of boys and roughs being assembled, some very sharp encounters took place between the two hostile bodies. The proctors having at length succeeded in securing most of the undergraduates within the college walls, the mob, lacking any other excitement, raised the cry of "cheap bread," which they shouted lustily through the streets. Arriving at the premises of Mr. Alderman Grubb, baker, in Queen-street, they smashed several of the windows, and went from thence to another shop belonging to the same tradesman, where they committed similar damage. The newly-elected mayor (Mr. Alderman Carr) being called out, attempted to address the crowd in front of the town-hall, but was unable to render himself heard. The mob then went to St. Giles's, where a number of speakers addressed them, demanding Reform and cheap bread. The police, who were in some cases rather roughly handled, succeeded in capturing several of the most prominent offenders, and the crowds were dispersed and the streets tolerably quiet again by three o'clock on Sunday morning.

Several thousand persons congregated in the streets on Monday night, but no serious riot occurred. The mob attacked the St. Clement's shop of Mr. Grubb, the baker, and succeeded, after breaking the windows of the establishment, in forcing an entrance, but was compelled to beat a retreat. They were next heard of at Summerstown, attacking the private residence of the above-named gentleman, and but for the precautions taken by Capt. Owen, the chief of the county police, who had a lot of his men in ambush, there is little doubt serious consequences would have resulted. The county constabulary made a vigorous onslaught on the mob, who, on their hurried return to Oxford, demolished all the lamps that came in their way. A large number of persons were captured, and many dealt with summarily by the magistrates, others being liberated on their own recognizances. Towards twelve o'clock the special constables paraded in large bodies, and forcibly cleared the streets. The mayor (Mr. J. R. Carr) felt compelled to read the Riot Act when the windows of the police-station were broken, and endeavoured by every peaceable means in his power to restore order. Mr. Charles Neate, the city member, also used his utmost endeavours to quell the disturbance, and addressed the mob from the steps of the Clarendon Hotel, urging them not to give occasion for the interference of the military. His worship the mayor afterwards stated he had held a conference with the leading bakers, and that they had agreed to lower the price of bread 1d. on Wednesday—an announcement which was received with demonstrations of satisfaction. The chief grievance with the rioters appears to be that, while the colleges and other public establishments are supplied with the best 4lb. loaf at 7d., the public are compelled to pay 9d. The presence of the military in the town, who had been sent from Windsor, had the necessary effect; and on Tuesday, the city was tranquil. On Wednesday the guards returned to Windsor.

WE learn, upon good authority, that it is not the intention of the Poor-Law Board to proceed further with the proposal to annex the parish of Clerkenwell to the West London Union, nor that of St. Luke's with the East London, the board of guardians of both of which we heartily congratulate on the satisfactory issue of their labours in the matter.



HIGH-STREET, OXFORD.

THEATRES.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, Covent Garden.—Grand Duchess of Gerolstein. Eight.
 HER MAJESTY'S.—Monday, Marta — Tuesday, Der Freischütz — Thursday, Linda di Chamouni. Eight.
 DRURY LANE.—The Duke of Venice—The Ladies' Club. Seven.
 HAYMARKET.—The Winning Card—Brother Sam—The Spectre Bridgroom. Seven.
 ADELPHI.—Man is not Perfect, nor Woman Either—Maud's Peril—The School for Tigers. Seven.
 LYCEUM.—Romeo and Juliet—Perfection. Seven.
 PRINCESS'S.—A Little Flirtation—Arrah-na-Pogue—Number One Round the Corner. Seven.
 OLYMPIC.—The Way to get Married—If I had a Thousand a Year—My Wife's Bonnet. Seven.
 ST. JAMES'S.—The School of Reform—A Widow Hunt—Fifteen Years of Labour Lost. Seven.
 STRAND.—Nothing to Nurse—Kind to a Fault—William Tell with a Vengeance. Seven.
 NEW QUEEN'S.—He's a Lunatic—Still Waters Run Deep—The First Night. Seven.
 HOLBORN.—For Love—Mary Turner. Seven.
 PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Caste—Allow me to Explain. Half-past Seven.
 NEW ROYALTY.—Meg's Diversion—(At Half-past Nine) The Latest Edition of Black-Eyed Susan—Mrs. White. Half-past Seven.
 ASTLEY'S.—That Rascal Jack—Mazeppa—Middy Ashore. Seven.
 NEW EAST LONDON.—The Last Moment—Time Trics All.
 BRITANNIA.—The Spanish Page—Marriage Certificate—Wild Charlie.
 ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE AND CIRCUS.—New Comic Ballet and Scenes in the Arena—Paul Dassic—Performing Ponies, Dogs, and Monkeys—The Kings of the Carpet, &c. Half-past Seven.

THE SIGHTS OF LONDON.

1.—FREE.

British Museum; Chelsea Hospital; Courts of Law and Justice; Docks; Dulwich Gallery; East India Museum, Fife House, Whitehall; Greenwich Hospital; Hampton Court Palace; Houses of Parliament; Kew Botanic Gardens and Pleasure Grounds. Museum of Economic Geology, Jermyn-street; National Gallery; National Portrait Gallery; Patent Museum, adjoining the South Kensington Museum; Soane's Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Society of Arts' Exhibitions of Inventions (in the spring of every year); St. Paul's Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; Westminster Hall; Windsor Castle; Woolwich Dockyard and Repository.

2.—PAYMENT REQUIRED.

Crystal Palace, Sydenham; Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly; Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street; Royal Academy; British Institution; Society of British Artists; Water Colour Societies; Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street; Thames Tunnel; Tus-saud's Waxwork, Baker-street Bazaar; Zoological Gardens.

3.—BY INTRODUCTION.

Antiquarian Society's Museum, Somerset House; Armourers' Museum, 81, Coleman-street; Asiatic Society's Museum, 5, New Burlington-street; Bank of England Museum (collection of coins); Botanical Society's Gardens and Museum, Regent's-park; College of Surgeons' Museum, Lincoln's-inn-fields; Guildhall Museum (old London antiquities); Linnean Society's Museum, Burlington House; Mint (process of coining), Tower-hill; Naval Museum, South Kensington; Royal Institution Museum, Albemarle-street; Trinity House Museum, Tower-hill; United Service Museum, Scotland-yard; Woolwich Arsenal.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

(All letters to be addressed to the Editor, 13, Catherine-street, Strand.)

J. WILSON M.—D. Many thanks for your offer, but we have no opening at present.

T. B.—(Piltown). We don't insert poetry in the "I. W. N." but we have handed your lines to the Editor of the "London Herald," published at our office, and in which they will shortly appear.

E. B.—We do not believe you can charm warts away.

CHARLES H.—The numbers you inquire about are not in print.

SUTTONS.—The department you speak of is filled up.

TENER.—You must show us how the word is used and give us the context.

The Illustrated Weekly News.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1867.

(REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.)

THE COSTERMONGERS.

AFTER all, the costermongers are a harmless, inoffensive set of men and do not very much block up the thoroughfares. If the proposal to do away with them is persisted in, a large number of honest fellows will be thrown on the parish, and perhaps the ranks of crime will be largely recruited. What should be done, is to make the costermonger the steady, reputable keeper of a shop or stall in a duly regulated market, and thereby get rid of his peripatetic tendencies, and to effect this public markets should be erected in various parts of London. Few will deny that they are much wanted. Compare London with Paris in this respect and see how much the latter has the advantage of the former capital in this particular. As the matter now stands it is not surprising that among the earliest petitions laid before Parliament will be one from the costermongers and stall-keepers of Whitechapel and the districts adjacent, praying for a re-consideration of the clause in the New Metropolitan Traffic Act which bears upon their peculiar interests. They set forth their memorial as representing the vital interests of more than fifty thousand of the London poor; but they do not ask that the regulation shall be, purely and simply, abrogated; they simply desire that it may operate only where an absolute necessity exists, an idea somewhat suggestive of an indefinite, and, to a certain extent, irresponsible police authority. We have thought from the outset of this discussion, that, as a class, they are harshly treated under the Act of Parliament, which confounds them, too remorselessly, with omnibuses pulling up in the middle of the road or at crosses, with dangerous iron

and timber loads, with the delivery of coals, and the activity of scavengers, with betting gangs and other positive nuisances. It seems unwise, as it is certainly not humane, at a time when popular distress appears likely to be aggravated, rather than diminished, by the influences of the winter now setting in, to deprive the humblest classes, or those naturally nearest to pauperism, of any legitimate facilities for gaining a livelihood. We have a large river population already manifesting evidence of the sufferings which must be expected for it during the coming season. The reports from the Northern and East-end workhouses are by no means encouraging; and, before the lapse of a single month, the effects of this Act have stamped themselves upon our police and parish records. It becomes a serious question how far this may go, and whether an immediate modification of the law be not, in the interest of more than one class, peremptorily required. The petitioners from Whitechapel predict misery to more than fifty thousand of the London poor, and those the least educated, the least capable of turning to other employments, the most likely to cast themselves adrift, either upon the union, or upon the highways and byeways of vagrancy or crime. Every magistrate in the provinces is aware of the relations between the calendar of crime, the workhouse returns, and the restriction upon hawking. Well, we have ordained that in London not less than forty street markets shall be virtually broken up—for they cannot long exist under the new law—and a great populace set adrift, or so bewildered by the details of the fresh code—which, no doubt, they began to hate before understanding it—that the result is practically the same. They are a bad class, it will be said, a vicious, foul-mouthed, gambling, cheating class, very unsightly in the streets, much addicted to slang, adepts in false weights and measures. Assuming all this to be true, is one of the facts alleged a reason why London should be menaced with the complete or partial pauperising, the further degradation, the ignorant exasperation, of this class, however reprobate? Besides, no order of people who carry on with regularity, with a tenacity even too persistent for their rivals, the petty commerce of the streets, can be utterly worthless. At any rate they supply, in a vast degree, the commissariat of the poor; they are valuable customers at all our provision markets of every kind; their transactions do tend towards cheapness of food; they support so many families; they simultaneously keep so many individuals from the workhouse door; and, upon these grounds, we think it cannot be imagined that society would be justified in waging against them an unsparring war. Nor, as we have before remarked, can it be supposed that the original intention was to starve these humble folk. Perhaps it might be added that their own fears on the point are more or less exaggerated; but, since the Act came into operation the police reports have shed some light on the matter, and we have heard of increased distress in some of the more destitute metropolitan districts. And now, the itinerant and stall-keepers of Whitechapel and its vicinity petitioning Parliament, vehemently urge that, unless the pressure of the clause applying to them be mitigated, a terrible calamity must fall upon their homes, and that with themselves and their fraternity, fifty thousand souls in London must bitterly suffer. Such a memorial cannot be dropped unregarded out of sight. It is an appeal, on the part of the very humblest among our fellow-creatures in London, for liberty to earn, by decent labour, their daily bread. The magistrates of the quarters in question would not, we fancy, refuse their testimony to the painful and mischievous consequences, under their notice, of the new regulations. The police themselves, in more than one case, have corroborated the statements made by offenders. On the principal, then, that the order and working of a great capital, however essential to the general interests, ought to be maintained without throwing any important class out of its industrial gear, and without either aggravating the pressure of pauperism or multiplying the temptations to crime, and on the principle that these forty or fifty thousand people, having hitherto enjoyed the means of procuring a livelihood, should not be deprived of them without reasons greater than any yet alleged, we insist that the memorial of the costermongers' fraternity in London is a memorial which deserves immediate and deliberate consideration by Parliament.

THE BATTLE OF MENTANA.

THE Roman correspondent of the Post says:—"The accounts I hear of the Garibaldians' fighting, as given by the French and Papal officers personally engaged, represent the affair as having been very hotly contested; and officers who were through the campaign in 1859 against the Austrians called it 'un petit Solferino.' The killed and wounded on both sides must approach nearer a thousand than the numbers so loosely set down by the official journal, for they strewed two miles of ground, over which the battle raged for five hours, on the whole width occupied by the contending forces. Conveyances of all kinds have been bringing in the wounded night and day, and a calculation of those already collected in the various hospitals will be found to approximate the figures given. I witnessed the entry of the last batch of prisoners. There were about 500 young men, mostly resolute-looking young fellows, by no means cast down by their defeat. The sympathies of the spectators were for the captured."

A communication from La Spezia, in the Turin Gazette, says:—"When General Garibaldi arrived here, more than 500 persons were assembled at the station; they accompanied the general to the Hotel de la Croix-de-Malte, cheering him loudly. Hardly had he reached the inn when he was obliged to get into a carriage, and, under the escort of a battalion of bersaglieri and carabinieri, was taken to Varignano, where he is under the guard of a considerable force, with three ironclads in the offing." The same journal adds that "Garibaldi is treated there with less consideration than formerly. He is very closely watched, and not allowed to communicate with any one. Fabrizio and Micelli have been refused permission to see him. His two sons, Menotti and Riciotti, made a similar request, but received no answer."

PUBLIC OPINION.

BRITISH COMMERCE.

THE monthly reports of the Board of Trade show that, although the nation is not doing quite as much business as last year, it is doing a great deal more than in 1865, and the deduction would seem inevitable that we are much more prosperous than we were then. But is that so? Nine out of every ten men you meet in the City will tell you they are not making a living from their proper avocations. What, then, becomes of all the business which is undoubtedly transacted? If it is profitable where do all the profits go? If unprofitable how does it not come to a stop? In explaining this mystery we suggest, first, that in most cases a loss which is borne by the original importers of an article represents an equivalent gain to the ultimate consumers. But the buyers of the commodities in question are neither more nor less than the whole community; if the few are ruined it is the many who gain by the process. Take tea, for instance. For the last two years or so the importation of tea has brought ruinous losses to most of those engaged in it, the price having steadily fallen in the face of large supplies. But every family in the kingdom has had the benefit of that decline, and the saving has been distinct and appreciable. The same may be said of sugar. Cotton is an even more striking instance. Large fortunes have been wrecked in the vain attempt to check the rapid fall in this staple, but every loss has been *pro tanto* a gain to the manufacturer and those whom he supplies. But further, a whole class of competitors has come into the field, interposing between the first importer and the consumer, and enhancing prices by stimulating speculation. Such transactions were not necessary to legitimate trade, but they gave life to it. The crash of credit, however, and the withdrawal of banking facilities, have for the time swept that class out of the field. A certain stimulus which had been applied to the markets is withdrawn, prices sink to a more natural level, and the wholesale class, which sees its profits reduced, together with the speculators, whose occupation is gone, make every exchange and money centre echo their loud laments. Meanwhile, if the comparatively limited section of large operators suffers, the great body of retailers is to some extent the gainer, as the returns of taxable income show beyond a doubt. The conclusion, then, is that the profits formerly earned by one class have been diverted to the hands of another, and that the losses of the speculative few have, on a wider scale than before, been a gain to the consuming many.—Telegraph.

MR. ERNEST JONES ON THE ARISTOCRACY.

Certainly it would be difficult to imagine a more singular instance of that unconscious irony which so often shows itself in people's proceedings than was afforded the other night by Mr. Samuel Morley when he took the chair at a meeting presided over by Mr. Ernest Jones, and gave more or less countenance to that gentleman's views on economical subjects. Mr. Morley is well and very favourably known. He is a very large manufacturer. He has immense numbers of workmen in his employment. He is believed, and his extreme liberality justifies the belief, to be exceedingly rich and to have derived his riches in what most people regard as a perfectly legitimate manner, from the profits of the business which he carries on; yet this gentleman took the chair at a meeting where a fervid orator put forward principles which, though we do not think that he intended, or clearly saw the consequence, could lead, if put into practice, to nothing but universal confiscation. The main subject of Mr. Jones's oration, however, was what he called the monopoly of land and the evils which it has produced, and if it is the fact that his oratory is a specimen of the sort of matter which is to come before the reformed Parliament, we certainly shall have during the next few years to wade through and contend against a marvellous flood of nonsense. The task of doing so, too, will be rendered all the more difficult by the fact that great questions on this subject really do exist, that on grounds quite distinct from those taken by Mr. Jones there really is a great deal to be said upon the subject of the present position of the territorial aristocracy which requires most careful consideration; and that those who have the least possible sympathy with many of his doctrines would be perfectly ready to discuss with persons approaching the subject from another side the question of the utility of the laws of primogeniture and entail. Upon social and political grounds a great deal might be said upon the laws which at present regulate the manner in which landed property is held and transmitted. It is no doubt a great question how far the power of making wills ought to extend. It may be a question whether marriage settlements are good things, though the question as to personal estate, which stands practically in nearly the same position as real property, is one of which the very existence appears to be unsuspected by the great mass of people. Various subordinate branches of the law of real property (for instance, the power of granting long leases and reserving reversionary interests to fall in after the lapse of several generations) are of questionable utility, and there can be no objection to a full discussion of all such matters on their merits. Mr. Jones, however, does not enter upon these matters. He takes an infinitely broader view. In his opinion, the present system is simply a gigantic and most oppressive monopoly, the existence of which directly impoverishes the great mass of the population, and has brought about all the evils under which they are suffering. To us this appears the most mischievous and dangerous of all conceivable fallacies, leading to nothing (though we do not say that Mr. Jones sees or intends the consequence) but socialism and confiscation. The distinction on which we wish to insist is, in two sentences, as follows:—It is a fair question for discussion whether, on social and political grounds, our existing system as to the ownership of land is advantageous. It is a mischievous and dangerous delusion to regard it as a proper object of popular indignation upon economical grounds. The great landowners may or may not be on the whole a useful class and a valuable element in the community, but whatever else they are, they most certainly are not an *incubus* on the national resources, weighing down and impoverishing all the rest of the nation.—Pall Mall Gazette.

WORKHOUSE WANT.

While our workhouses are deficient in accommodation, they are very expensive. They are meanly managed, but meanness is not invariably thrift. Local boards are not good managers of money, and local boards working through contractors are peculiarly liable both to imposition and to jobbery. In the Farnham affair evidence is coming out which suggests, to say the least of it, much waste. Witnesses seem to doubt whether supplies paid for ever arrived, and, even if they are wrong, and their suspicions are malignant, it is quite clear the workhouse did not get the full benefit of its position as a great wholesale buyer. Strict inquiry doubtless would show that the cost of exchanging the master for an educated superintendent, clergyman or doctor, as it might be, would repay itself, partly in prohibiting speculation, partly in securing a more intelligent, and therefore less expensive, system of purveying. It will be well, too, to ask whether, if infirmaries were centralised, they would not cost less; whether no use can be made of the "cottage hospital" system; and whether buildings ought to cost quite as much as they do. Whatever the burden of treating our sick poor decently may be, it must be borne, even if we have, as a last resort, to throw part of it on that vast mass of wealth which now escapes this form of taxation altogether. But the public, while insisting on decency and mercy in workhouse hospitals, should look the facts in the face, and remember that unless it can in some way secure exceedingly good management, management with brain in it, like Post-office management, for example, it will have to gratify its philanthropy at very heavy cost. There is one thing sadder almost than workhouse cruelty, and that is the spectacle of a hard-

working man sold up for rates, a spectacle which is in places already too frequent, and which cannot be too carefully avoided.—*Economist*.

MR. LAING.

It is refreshing, after the flood of invective and calumny which has been turned upon the Conservative Government by their Liberal critics, to meet with so fair and courteous a judgment as that which proceeds from the pen of Mr. Laing in his address to his constituents. There are very few Liberals in Parliament who can say that they have done as much to pass the Reform Bill as Mr. Laing, and scarcely one who has so emphatically left his mark upon it. He frankly accepted the challenge thrown down to his party by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to co-operate with the Government in making the Reform Bill as perfect as possible, and to him is due one of the most important amendments introduced into it, that by which the area of re-distribution was considerably enlarged, owing to the substitution of 10,000 population for 7,000 as the limit of partial disfranchisement. "Sincere" Reformers will seek to thrust aside the claims of Scotland and undo the good work of 1867, in the hope that some chance victory may restore their party to office. In that case Mr. Laing has accurately indicated the course which not only the Scotch members, but all genuine Reformers, must pursue. They must re-construct the Cave of Adullam and enlarge the Tea-room party, and exhibit to the world the edifying spectacle of the cream of the Liberal party deserting their natural leaders, placing themselves at the disposal of Mr. Disraeli, and strengthening the Government in its endeavours to carry another Reform Bill in the teeth of Mr. Gladstone and the professional Reformers.—*Herald*.

THE MANCHESTER PENIANS.

Unless the murder of policemen in the performance of their most dangerous duties is to be sanctioned and permitted, there can be no claim by these condemned prisoners at Manchester, nor by their friends, nor by any philanthropic persons for them, that they should escape the most condign punishment. Whether the punishment of death is the most effective form of retribution, and would most certainly prevent other desperadoes from the prevalent use of deadly weapons, may be a disputed point. But to maintain that these violent, lawless, and cowardly offences can be committed without involving their perpetrators in the most severe penalties, is an attempt to defeat justice. If any alleviation of punishment is offered, or any clemency is shown, it cannot be claimed as a right by such offenders, nor by any one in their behalf. Whatever may be the most severe punishment known to the law, these men, as they have been condemned, are fully entitled to receive, and they have not even sought by any explanation to lessen the full incidence of their guilt. Perhaps the Ministry may have received some evidence to justify an alleviation of the sentence; but none has been made public.—*Advertiser*.

THE SALT TRADE.

We call attention to the operations of the salt manufacturers of Cheshire, in order to point out that trade-unionism extends much more deeply than is supposed, and affects the class of masters quite as much as workmen. The case of the salt manufacturers, moreover, is an instructive one, as they have formed a combination, not against their own workpeople in particular, as the iron manufacturers of the north have done, but against the community, and for the dishonestly avowed object of raising or keeping up their profits. The report for 1867 of the "Salt Chamber of Commerce" opens with an expression of satisfaction that for the year the trade had been united, and the manufacturers had thus been enabled to get a fair remunerative price for their article. It then proceeds:—"The effect of the financial and commercial crisis of last year was severely felt, and the demand for salt at one time was so limited as to render it necessary to curtail the make, a measure that was cheerfully responded to at the call of the committee, and to this judicious step must be attributed the maintenance of prices. The spring demand of this year has compensated for previous stagnation, and shows the good policy of meeting it without overwhelming stocks." The document boldly adds that "the labours of the Chamber, as usual, have been directed to the steady maintenance of prices." So successful, indeed, has the policy been that a testimonial to the chairman of the Chamber, Mr. H. E. Falk, of Liverpool, in the shape of a handsome piece of plate, was presented to him by the salt trade of Cheshire and Worcestershire at a dinner at which Lord Delamere.—*Star*.

VOLUNTEERS AND REGULAR TROOPS.

The campaign in the Papal States cannot fairly be taken as any evidence of what can or cannot be effected by civilian soldiers. The extraordinary success which attended the Garibaldian invasion of the Two Sicilies misled public opinion to a very unfortunate extent. The true history of the campaign was known to few persons, and even sensible men firmly believed for a time that bands of half-armed lads, who could hardly use their muskets, and could not execute the simplest military movement, were a match, by mere virtue of their dash and courage, for trained and skilled troops. The delusion was shared by Garibaldi himself. He did not attempt to drill his irregular levies. During the periods when he has had considerable bodies of men under his command he has never seriously endeavoured to form them into disciplined troops. To put muskets into his soldiers' hands, and then tell them to charge the enemy, was about the only system of warfare which he viewed with favour. And it is not wonderful that the plan should often be crowned with brilliant and snuffing success. The misfortune is that it must fail whenever the attack is skilfully as well as vigorously encountered, and that when it does fail it fails utterly. Now, in the event of war, it cannot be said that our volunteers would resemble the Garibaldini in any single respect, except that their services would be rendered for love of country. A large proportion of them are well skilled in the use of arms, accustomed to perform military evolutions, and used, above all, to obey orders, act in concert, and take part in combined movements on a large scale. The moment their services were really required, public opinion in this country would most certainly support, and volunteers themselves would welcome, the enforcement of strict military discipline; and one may fairly reckon that, to take a very low estimate of their merits, they would be at least as serviceable troops as the Prussian Landwehr. The lesson of Mentana may fairly be employed to prove that mere gallantry is not sufficient to supply the place of tactics, arms and discipline; but it shows also how much might be expected from volunteer troops provided with the weapons and the training in which the Garibaldini were wanting, and directed by officers who understand their trade.—*Telegraph*.

EARTHQUAKE IN CRETE.—While the Cretans have been fighting, Crete has been quaking. Particulars have reached us of two shocks of an earthquake which were felt at Canea, in the evening of September 19, and on the following morning. The second shock was severe, and lasted ten seconds, the oscillations being horizontal, and from east to west. One of the old Venetian galley arches fell bodily, and killed a Turkish sentry and an hospital attendant. Shortly afterwards, the sea began to recede, and at the rate of about ten inches a minute, went down four feet; then rose gradually above the former level. The water in well, was similarly affected, but with great agitation during the rise. The temperature of the sea was the same as that of the air—87° F. By the afternoon the sea had returned to its ordinary level, having in the interval been subject to powerful galvanic currents; for it was remarked that the bottom of H.M.S. Wizard, then lying in harbour, had become suddenly bright and clean. These are noteworthy facts. Is there not something in the last-mentioned which our electricians could take advantage of, and devise a method for the instantaneous cleaning of the copper bottoms of the Royal Navy as they lie at anchor in Plymouth Sound?

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—On Friday evening Mdlle. Clara Kellogg appeared for the first time as Lady Henrietta, or Enrichetta, in M. Flotow's opera of "Martha"—a character which requires a different style of acting and singing from Marguerita in "Faust," or Violetta in "La Traviata." M. Gounod's heroine is throughout sentimental and serious; that of Verdi exhibits some of the traits of a comedienne in the earlier scenes of the opera, but is otherwise lachrymose and distressful; while the sprightliness and airy graces of the Lady Henrietta in "Martha" belong strictly to the domain of comedy. Thus Mdlle. Kellogg, having assayed the profoundly sentimental and melodramatically serious line of characters in her first two performances, appeared on Friday night to her new public as a comic actress, and as a singer of light and facile music, showing herself a practised and fluent vocalist, and a thorough mistress of the art.

STRAND THEATRE.—"Kind to a Fault" is the title of a new comedy by Mr. W. Brough produced at this theatre, in which Frank Goldsworthy (Mr. Belford) figures as a gentleman blest with a large fortune, but "kind to a fault," and from his easy nature in trying to assist others the circumstances which comprise the action of the piece arise. He is about purchasing an estate near Richmond, and engages Mr. Drewitt, a prosperous middle-aged City solicitor (Mr. Parselle), whose country house is in the same locality, to conduct the transaction. The latter gentleman is suspicious of his young and handsome wife, Mrs. Drewitt (Miss Fanny Gwynne), although without any apparent cause, and enjoins Parker, his servant (Mr. James), who is contemplating marriage with Jenny, the maid-servant (Miss E. Johnstone), and taking a coffee-house, but cannot make up the required purchase-money, to watch her movements during his absence. Goldsworthy calls at Drewitt's house at Richmond, and, during the time he is waiting there, is induced, out of pure good nature, to lend Jenny the £40 to enable her to acquire the business she desires, and this rouses her lover's jealousy. About the same time Jessie Bluck (Miss Fanny Hughes), the daughter of an alderman, and a friend of Mrs. Drewitt, appears on the scene in male attire, her intended elopement to London with Arthur Honiton (Mr. G. Murray) having been frustrated. Parker at once suspects his mistress of improper conduct, and communicates the visit of the supposed gentleman to his employer, showing him a cloak which the visitor wore as a proof of his assertion. They at once proceed to the garden to reconnoitre, and Goldsworthy again enters, and is induced by Mrs. Drewitt to lend Jessie his dog-trap in order to take her to London, and also to avow that he is the owner of the cloak, upon Mr. Drewitt's subsequently demanding an explanation of his wife with regard to it. The second act is made up of the scrapes into which Goldsworthy falls after his return to London by exciting the suspicions of the various interested parties. Jessie is left at his chambers in Piccadilly, where she is sought by a detective. Mrs. Drewitt, accompanied by her maid, also calls to see after her friend, and Goldsworthy is alternately subjected to the charge of elopement with all three females, and is threatened with consequences from their friends, the confusion becoming very general. In the end mutual explanations take place and matters are cleared up to the satisfaction of all parties. The piece was throughout received with roars of laughter. The fun is of the broadest kind, and many of the incidents are extremely improbable; its reception, however, was in every way gratifying. The principal characters were called before the curtain at the end of each act, and there can be no doubt that it will occupy a place in the bills for a very lengthened period. Mr. Belford enacted the part of Goldsworthy with genuine humour. Mr. Parselle, as Mr. Drewitt, was effective; Miss Fanny Gwynne as his wife infused considerable charm and grace into her impersonation. Mr. James's delineation of Parker was absurdly droll; the Misses Johnstone and Hughes ably personated the parts of Jenny and Jessie. The other characters were well supported by the members of the Strand company.

NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONG ACRE.—"The First Night" is a most laughable piece, and the acting throughout is excellent. Mr. Wigan has lately been playing in his favourite drama, "Still Waters Run Deep," and his admirers have flocked in crowds to see him. We are glad to be able to say, that Mr. Wigan's finished performance has lost none of its original charm, and even to an old play-goer seems as fresh and interesting as at its first production.

MACCABE.—This popular entertainer has taken a firm hold on the London public, which steadily increases. He is to be seen at the Egyptian Hall, and his songs, comic and pathetic, at one moment occasion bursts of laughter, and the next move the audience almost to tears. We can strongly recommend those in search of amusement to visit Mr. Maccabe.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.—The second of these well-regulated and enjoyable entertainments was given on Wednesday last, when St. James's Hall was even more crowded than on the occasion of the first concert. The instrumental performances were divided between Madame Arabella Goddard and Mr. Lazarus. Both joined in a duet concertante for pianoforte and clarinet on airs from "L'Elisir d'Amore," and each played a solo, that of the lady being Thalberg's fantasia on "Mose in Egitto," and that of the gentleman his own solo on Swiss airs.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The programme of last Saturday's concert is to be criticised only on the score of its vocal pieces, which were unduly in excess. When three singers are engaged for a concert it seems to follow as a general rule that double the number of vocal pieces should be given. In this instance, however, we had actually six single songs and a duet—more than enough, we should say, for an entertainment that depended for its chief attraction on its instrumental performances. Thanks to the forbearance of the audience, there were no encores, with the exception of the "Presto final" in Haydn's symphony, which no one could object to. However, as the singers were from Her Majesty's Theatre, Mr. Manns no doubt considered he was imperatively called upon to exhibit their several talents to the greatest possible advantage.

MULES FOR ABYSSINIA.

It has been reported, and is generally believed that the British officers were sent in the first instance to buy mules at Constantinople, where mules worth having are almost as rare as black swans. What was the meaning of this? Why are the proceeds of our rates and taxes to be thrown away in so wanton a manner? Some person at the War Office, or at the Horse Guards, might have fairly been expected to know in what places mules could be bought with advantage, and in what places they could not. For instance, every officer who has ever been quartered at Gibraltar must have been perfectly well aware that Spain and the Barbary States swarm with them; but Turkey, in the districts about Constantinople, is pre-eminently a horse country. Towards Trebizond and in Central Asia mules are certainly to be found, though not in very great numbers or of very good quality; and it would hardly enter into the arrangements even of the Circumlocution-office to buy mules at Samoon to be employed against Theodore in Abyssinia. What we require is a well-appointed commission, composed of representative officers taken from every branch of the service, to superintend the commissariat purchases and army contracts generally. No accounts should be finally passed till it was made quite clear that they were entirely free from jobbery and abuse.—*Daily News*.

FUN OF THE WEEK.

PUNCH.

WHAT NEXT?—A man, otherwise an excellent fellow, w cruel enough the other day, in our presence, to take a lady's face to pieces.

A SEAT IN THE CABINET.—One of the Forms of State. A SIMPLE QUESTION.—(In the Olympic Playbills).—"Th Way to Get Married, If I had a Thousand a Year?"—By holding up my finger. (We are surprised that Mr. Webster should think it worth while to make the inquiry.)

DOING AS ROME DOES.—Occupying oneself. In DR. MAYOR'S spelling-book the juveniles are informed that the flesh of the pig "produces" pork. Ought not the youngsters to be informed at the same time that it "produces" nightmare?

SPIRITUAL PEARS.—The present is a good Pear season. Bishops' thumbs, in particular, are plentiful and cheap. Can this be owing to the late Pan-Anglican Synod?

A REASON why Ladies should avoid Ritualism.—It makes them fast, and cross withal.

DOMESTIC DISCOURSE.—The principal topic of conversation everywhere in the servants' hall just now is what John, Thomas, and Mary call the Butcher's Round Robbing.

A CHEAP BATH.—A farthing dip.

A MAN OF TWO MONTHS.—The Emperor of the French has been called the Man of December. His friends call him the Elect of the French Nation. On Monday the fourth instant the Elect of the French Nation, by his troops, assisted the Pope's army to crush the Garibaldians, and thwart the choice of the Italian nation. He has now, then, earned a right to be called also the Man of November.

WHAT books would most appropriately be read while you're eating boiled mackerel? The works of Feneon.

MOTTO for the Walrus.—Not "Wilkes and Liberty," but "Wheels and Confinement."

FUN.

FROM THE HIGHLANDS.—The Flower of the Forest.—Its stalk.

NATIVE AND FOREIGN PRODUCE.—1st Young Lady: "We 'ad rhubub pudd'n on Sunday—grewed it ourselves!"—2nd Ditto (with dignity): "So 'ad we, but ourn come from Turkey!"

A LOWERING SKEY.—We are assured that the gloomy views held by Dr. Skey as to the effects of a course of training on the constitution are anything but popular in Cambridge. The day is far distant when the Cantabs will make the doctor's arguments an excuse for skey-daddling out of future contests.

PRUDENT PRECAUTIONS.—We have no wish to pry into the domestic relations of the authorities at the War Office. We believe they have issued instructions that in making experiments with the new ordnance, the charges of powder shall not be too high for fear of "wearing the breeches." This looks ominous.

NAME!—Of new magazines there seems to be no end! It is a pity a little more originality is not expended on the naming of these ventures. Cornhill, Temple Bar, St. James's, St. Paul's, and Belgravia, have all stood sponsors, and now a musical monthly is christened after Hanover-square. What next? We suppose a medical magazine—perhaps two—"The Savile Row," and "The Upper Wimpole Street." A legal periodical, "The Lincoln's Inn Fields," or "The Chancery Lane," will probably be the next.

THE ANTIQUITY OF FENIANISM.—Fenianism dates very much farther back than most people suppose. We would remind our readers that when Herodias's daughter was living there was a head-sent-her.

SMOKING HIM.—Tobacconist (to youth who has been turning over the stock of pipes for the last quarter of an hour, and has bought nothing):—"Ah, I see what it is! You're so particular, you ought to be measured for a pipe!"

JUDY.

NATIVE Talent.—Whistling Oysters.

"HANDSOME'S" Patent Safety.—Enamel.

THE Bridge of "Sizars."—Cambridge.

A FITTER spot for Fetter Lane.—Newgate-street.

A ROMAN QUESTION.—"If uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," what must the Pope's head suffer from wearing three crowns?

AN EPICURE.—Peeler: "Now then! mind that dog don't bite me."—Mary Ann: "Don't you be afraid, he's very partickler about what he eats, I can tell you."

THE COSTERMONGER'S LAMENT.

I cannot work—I will not steal—

To beg I feel too proud;

How furnish, then, life's daily meal?

To sell I'm not allowed!

How to Cook a Goose.—Suspend yourself in front of a brisk fire and revolve carefully and regularly until you are done brown.

ARTFUL.—Captain (who has lost his heart): "But just now you said you cared for nobody."—Beautiful Being (with presence of mind): "Well, and pray, sir, who are you?"—[This settles the matter, and in a few short weeks, &c., &c., &c.]

ON THE CHEAP.—It is a curious coincidence—and one which, after the somewhat meagre show of the 9th, we are compelled to notice—that the present Lord Mayor has been a long time the Alderman of "Cheap!"

TOMAHAWK.

The Public Idea of Full Dress in the Underground Railway.—A black choker.

The Quarrel of the Day.—The new "railing" at Hyde-park. A RING that has no Bell.—Q. Why do misfortunes on the Turf never come single?—A. Because they are always connected with the ring.

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL WORKS.

"The Royal Road to Ruin," by a Shareholder in the Royal Bank of Liverpool: dedicated to the shareholders in every bank throughout the United Kingdom. We strongly recommend the work to bank directors.

"Cent. per cent.; or the Ups and Downs of Life," by "One of the Israelitish Persuasion," dedicated to Minors. This will no doubt be a work full of interest. Who can doubt it?

"How to Spin a Yarn," by a Cotton Broker, being an essay on the Sophistry of Borrowers requiring Advances.

"The Adventures of a Promissory Note; or, the Perils of Dishonour," by the author of "How to Fly a Kite, &c., &c."

"I. O. U.," by "One whose Alphabetical Knowledge ignores these Obnoxious Letters," being a Dissertation on waste-paper currency.

"The History of Most Bills of Exchange, from their Infancy to Maturity," by a Commercial Man of Undoubted Standing—in his own opinion.

"The Asylum for Idiots only—viz., Whitecross-street," by "A Rogue who has managed to keep out of it."

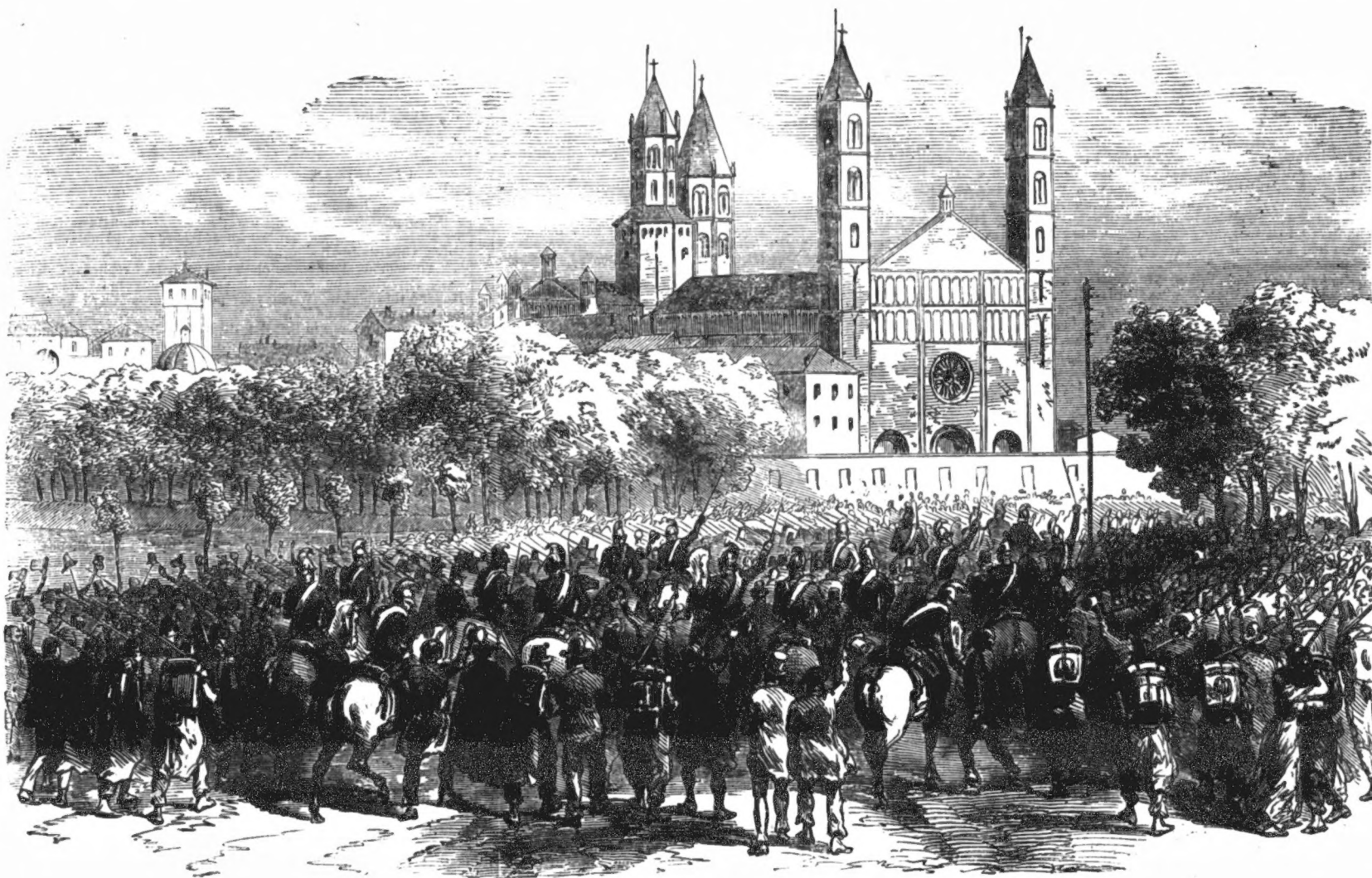
"No Effects; or, the Effects of Insolvency," being a dignified Reply by an indignant Debtor to an impertinent Banker's Clerk.

"Basinghall Street; or, Three-halpence in the Pound," being Thoughtful Meditations on the best method of making a purse for one's self.

"A New Way to Pay Old Debts," a practical Treatise on raising a laugh at the expense of a body of Creditors.



THE BATTLE OF MENTANA.



ARRIVAL OF FRENCH TROOPS IN THE PAPAL STATES.

The Poisoner's Daughter: A TALE OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

CHAPTER XVIII.

FLIGHT OF THE DWARF.

It was after the hour of day, but the dense fog still continued, rendering objects invisible at a very short distance. The course pursued by the dwarf led his party through the dilapidated garden of the house into a marsh, passing through which as rapidly as possible, all soon found themselves at the river's edge.

Through the fog the outlines of a boat were dimly seen, the bow resting upon the bank.

"Get in," whispered the dwarf to each of his party; a command none were slow in obeying. And, when all were seated, he shoved off the bow of the boat, leaping into it easily as it floated away.

"Take the oars, Richard," said he; "and the others must lie down in the bottom of the boat. And if the fog begins to rise, I must cover them with sailcloth. Pull, Richard, and boldly."

He seated himself at the bow, now and then saying, in a subdued tone, meant for Dick's ear alone:—

"Starboard!" or "Larboard!" as the case demanded.

At that moment the house which they had quitted so precipitately was being surrounded by the troopers of St. Luke's regiment, for the colonel made no idle threat when he said his friends were near. It had been his intention to effect the assassination of the earl, if he found him, as he expected, concealed in the house of the dwarf; then to return to his force, which awaited him in the neighbourhood, lead them, or rather command them, to storm the house, and then to fasten the assassination of the earl upon the dwarf.

St. Luke had heard that the King, or one suspected to be the King, had escaped from the Red House in a boat, and that a cavalier and a woman escaped with him; for such was the rumour among the guards around the spot where he moved among them in silent and cunning pursuance of his own dark schemes. He suspected, from the thorough information which he possessed of the premises, that the woman was Lenora; and that if either of the two cavaliers were the King, as was very probable, the other was the earl.

His own investigations had told him that the dwarf was the friend of Lenora, and his eye had been quietly watching the house of Freeman's marsh and its inmates for several weeks.

He was as eager as Cromwell to secure the outlawed Charles, that he might win the immense reward offered for the person of the King, and, therefore, he hoped that if Charles had escaped from the Red House, with the earl and Lenora, all three would fall into his power across the river.

The reader has seen how St. Luke's rash adventure terminated, and, as soon as he escaped from the house of the dwarf, he hurried to rejoin his regiment, which he had left within a few hundred yards of the house.

But St. Luke became bewildered in the fog, and lost some time in seeking for his men. And after he had stumbled upon them, some time was consumed in selecting some forty men to take the house, and in giving orders.

It was fortunate for the fugitives that this delay occurred, and it was no less fortunate for Colonel St. Luke that he did not accompany his men.

"Remember," said he to the officer whom he placed in command, "that you are to cut down every man you find."

"No quarter was always your motto, colonel, for traitors," said the officer. "No matter if it is Charles, eh?"

"No matter who, if a man," replied St. Luke. "The three women, or if there are any more, all of the women you will see unharmed, and conveyed to the residence of Madam St. Luke, on the other side of the river."

The detachment departed, and the fog soon swallowed them from the vision of St. Luke.

The whole city had been in violent excitement all night, for the rumour was abroad that Charles Stuart was in London—that a desperate plot to assassinate Cromwell had been discovered—that seven Royalists of note had been slain, and many of Cromwell's guards. The soldiers of St. Luke, therefore, advanced against the house of Freeman's marsh, under considerable excitement, expecting a desperate resistance.

They surrounded the house, so as to cut off all chance of escape, and were surprised to find it vacant, though evidently recently occupied, as two lamps were burning, and everything in that disorder which indicates hasty flight.

The officer in charge of the detachment was about to descend those stairs which led to the powder room, when the fuse left by the dwarf did its terrible purpose.

The whole house, soldiers and all, was rent asunder by the explosion, a dreadful report as of a thousand cannon discharged at the same instant, shook the air—a volcano of flame roared for a second, and that was the last of St. Luke's hapless detachment.

"Great Heaven!" cried St. Luke. "The dwarf has blown up the house! All must have perished! Forward!"

His troops were instantly rushing towards the spot, regardless of the crash of falling fragments.

A few burning ruins remained, and as the troopers ran here and there, seeking to find those whose groans told that they still lived, St. Luke leaned upon his sword and reflected.

"All are gone now! The earl, the knight, the dwarf, and the duke's daughter. I hoped to win her love by giving her rank, wealth, and a ducal father. I hoped to win her eternal gratitude by restoring to him his lost daughter. That is all past now."

Raymond St. Luke had derived all his knowledge of Lenora's relationship to the Duke of Langford from his mother, but she, while scheming to make her son the husband of Lenora, had her own schemes of revenge in view, and had not told him that he was the son of Herbert Redburn, and therefore the nephew of the duke.

Love of gold and rank was the very soul of Raymond St. Luke, and he viewed the supposed destruction of Lenora as the end of his hopes ever to call the estates of Langford his own.

Moody and heartsick he turned over the command of his troops to his subordinate, and taking a single follower with him, directed his steps to a pier of the river, for the fog was rising, and entering a small boat ordered the oarsman to land him on the other side of the river as speedily as possible.

"I must see my mother, and tell her of the sudden end of our hopes," he mused, as he drew a cloak around him. "I am weary, sad, sick. I must sleep after this, or I shall go mad."

Though the fog was growing less dense, all objects upon the water were only dimly visible, nor was it possible for one floating in the middle of the Thames to see either shore.

St. Luke remained moody and silent as his oarsman pulled steadily and cautiously, saying nothing, except once in reply to the challenge of an armed barge which suddenly loomed through the fog near him; and the wherry had reached the middle of the river when a light skiff, containing but one man, shot through the misty gloom and ranged alongside the boat.

"Who's that?" said the solitary boatman. "Is that you, Mark Ranger?"

"Ay—good morning, Harry. Which way?" replied the oarsman of St. Luke.

"From below, Mark. Who're these?"

"Colonel St. Luke and orderly. Anything new below, Harry?" Both oarsmen had ceased to pull, their boats floating side by side, as they paused to exchange a momentary greeting. St. Luke listened moodily to the conversation, and was about to command his oarsman to pull on when the reply of Harry roused his attention keenly.

"Nothing new, Mark. It's so foggy that all river craft have to pull slow. I ran into a boat about half an hour ago, and would

have been capsized but for a long-armed, long-legged little fellow in the bow of the other boat, who unlocked us in time to save my shell from being swamped. He had the face of a man and the size of a boy, and was as quick as lightning."

"Say, my man!" exclaimed St. Luke, roused by the description of the dwarf, who was in his mind at the moment; "what kind of boat was it, and how many were in it?"

"It was a good-sized yawl, your honour," replied the boatman, touching his cap respectfully. "I didn't see anybody in it except him as kept my shell from being run under, and a stout fellow at the oars; but I think I heard a woman's voice screech when we struck."

"Ah, a woman's voice? How was that?"

"You see, your honour, I had been making such slow time by reason of the fog all night—being on a return visit to a friend, and wanting to be at work to-day by time—that I began to take the chances of a smash and was pulling fast, when somebody yelled 'Larboard!' and just too late, for I run the nose of my shell under his bows, and then there was a bit of a screech from under a pile of sail-cloth or tarpaulin, d'y'e see, which makes me say there was a woman there."

"How long since? Did you notice the faces of those in the boat?" asked St. Luke, eagerly.

"May be half an hour or more ago—just when something blew up, I think. Their faces? Oh, the little fellow's face was within an inch of mine as he unlocked our bows—the face of a gentleman, I should say, sir—pale and proud-like, with large black eyes, I think, and some moustache, sir. The man at the oars was bare-headed, had a white bandage across his forehead, and I think I noticed a streak of blood down his cheek—it may have been smut or mud, for I wasn't near enough to him to say the streak was red or black in the fog."

"The boat was heading down?"

"Yes, sir, and going fast. If it held on at that rate it must be four or five miles down by this time, sir."

"I am Colonel Raymond St. Luke, my good man—"

"I have heard of you, sir. You commanded a battalion at Worcester," interrupted the man, again touching his hat.

"A regiment," said St. Luke, correcting him. "Now, if you will find out who was in that boat, and let me know where I can find them, to-day, or to-morrow, or any time, provided that I do not find them myself before you do, I will give you five pounds—and that's more than you can earn in a month, eh? You can always hear where to find me by asking at the palace of the Lord Protector. But be careful not to allow anyone to know that I employed you—I mean any of those in the boat."

"A little in hand, your honour," said Harry. "You see I might not find the boat or them either, and so be working for nothing, if it please your worship."

St. Luke was extremely parsimonious, and but little gold ever slipped through his avaricious fingers. He fumbled in his vest for a moment, and then gave the man a golden guinea, saying—

"Here's a guinea; now hasten and earn four more, which you may do before night."

"Thanks, your honour," said Harry, as he turned the bow of his boat to begin the search. "Now I'm off, sir."

"Mayhap," muttered Harry, as he lost sight of St. Luke, "the other party may pay me better than 'Butcher St. Luke,' as they call him."

"Push on, my man," cried St. Luke to his oarsman, his moodiness now dispelled by the rays of reviving hope. "Make land as soon as possible."

"Above or below the Red House, sir?" asked Mark. "I judge we are very nearly opposite."

"Either—no matter," replied St. Luke. "Or you may try to make the stone stairs in the rear of the Red House."

Mark pulled on, the fog now lifting rapidly as a strong dry wind swept over the river, and as the rays of an unclouded sun began to dissipate the mist.

The tall and extensive building known as the Red House soon

became plainly visible, and as St. Luke gazed at its many barred and boarded windows, he mused—

"The outlawed King was there last night. He may be there yet, who knows, unless Reginald Brame? I wish I knew more about that gloomy old labyrinth. The secret passage from the street shop I discovered, it is true, and I made one perilous visit into the house, and overheard a conversation between Lord Albert and one whom I learned was Charles Stuart; but I know very little of the many deep hiding-places of the building.

The boat was now rapidly approaching the stone steps down which Lenora and the cavaliers had escaped, and as St. Luke gazed toward them he saw a tall form standing upon the narrow causeway which skirted the high wall.

"Who is that, I wonder," thought St. Luke, as the passage of the boat carried him each instant nearer the stone steps, upon the topmost of which the tall form was standing. "By my life, it is Reginald Brame, the alchemist!—Wild Redburn.

He was right. The alchemist, with his gown drawn closely around his thin person, was gazing across the river, and wondering what had become of the solitary house which stood the day before upon the Freeman's marsh.

The marsh was there, black and desolate as ever, the many houses which had skirted it were there still, but the house had disappeared, as if carried away by the fog. The ruins, or rather the ashes, alone remained to tell where it had been.

"Where, then, is Lenora and those who fled with her?" thought the amazed alchemist, who knew that the house on Freeman's marsh was to have given temporary shelter to all fugitives from the Red House.

We left the alchemist in Chapter XIV. just after he had said to the unfortunate Lady Eleanor, "Now, come with me, for we are going to see the King." And to hold all our characters well to the front, we will accompany him until we bring him up to the moment when Raymond St. Luke recognised him standing upon the stone steps of the river gate.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE KING AND THE ALCHEMIST.

THE alch. mist, though he had so boldly declared his purpose to mad Lady Eleanor, moved towards it with excessive caution. He first visited Captain Blood, whom he found in a profound sleep, from the after effects of the restorative which had at first roused him.

"What a head!" thought the alchemist, as he viewed the sleeper. "As large as he is in body and limb, his head is still immense. What ferocity of daring in those features! His character is like his name—Blood; and if he lives a career of crime is before him. Well, let him live. I need him, especially as the sea has vomited Carlos Salvador upon London. Ho! I will match my bold sea captain with my huge land captain, and a fine show will the two brutes make in my arena! Ten to one on the Briton, who believes that he can be slain only by poison. Watch well your guards and your feints, and your blows, my bold Spaniard, when the English bully ruffles at your throat."

The idea seemed to please him, and his thin features were radiant with a malicious delight, as he gazed upon the formidable sleeper.

"His wound will not hurt him," he mused. "Nothing vital has been wounded. The fellow has ten lives in his healthy carcase, and his wound will heal very fast under my care. Come Mag," he whispered to her, as she stood near him, twisting her long white hair, and left Captain Blood to his slumbers.

The hiding place of the King was admirably contrived to baffle suspicion, as its entrance was through the centre of a fireplace, the back of the chimney being a thick sheet of iron, against which a few embers were burning.

The apartment which contained this fire-place had been cunningly prepared to represent a small kitchen, and the various utensils of the culinary art were scattered about so as to deceive the unsuspecting.

The alchemist did not enter this room without first having examined every room and corridor in its vicinity with a jealous scrutiny, which showed his fear that some trooper might still be lurking within the Red House.

Having satisfied himself that no one was near, he entered the room with Lady Eleanor, who followed him in silence, and who watched his eyes for some recognition of her presence, as we have seen a faithful spaniel watch the face of its master.

Entering, he closed the door, and advanced to the broad and deep fire-place. Stretching out his long arm, he pressed his thumb against a knob embedded in the foot of the chimney, and the iron back sank almost to a level with the embers upon the hearth, revealing a yawning recess of darkness.

"Watch and alarm," he said to Lady Eleanor, who immediately opened the door of the room and leaned against the wall.

Stepping over the embers and the edge of the iron back, the alchemist stooped his tall form, entered the yawning recess, and pulled the sheet of iron back to its place. Then, ascending a narrow iron ladder, he soon emerged into a very small apartment, windowless, but lighted by a single lamp, and ventilation gained only by a few small holes, which penetrated the wall upon one side.

Charles Stuart, with upraised sword, stood at the head of the ladder, but did not strike; for before the alchemist began to ascend he had called out:—

"The throne of England!"

A small table upon which were a few books, the lamp, and writing materials; a low couch, a salver of refreshments and a chair made up the scanty furniture of this room, if that might be called a room which was not seven feet by five in area, and high enough between floor and ceiling to permit the alchemist to stand erect.

"How goes the search, Reginald Brame?" demanded the King, lowering his sword as he recognized the pale face of the alchemist.

"All well thus far, your Majesty," said the alchemist. "Cromwell has been baffled, with all his followers. The earl and the knight have escaped by the river."

"That is noble news, and I will empty a glass in honour of it," remarked Charles, filling from a flagon, and drinking. "But the plot? I heard from Sir James Howard that the blow was really no ripe."

"The plot and all its chiefs, your grace, Sir Edward Dudley and my humble self excepted—if I may call myself a chief—has been crushed," replied the alchemist. "There has been treachery—"

"Of course!" cried Charles, smiting the table with great anger. "Always treachery in some one."

"Then your Majesty knew that the plot aimed at the life of the Protector?"

"I knew that it aimed at placing Charles Stuart upon the throne of his ancestors," replied Charles, quickly, as his swarthy face grew red with anger, "and I cared not whether Cromwell or the devil stood in the way. So that is crushed and all those noble gentlemen, Dudley excepted, die with it."

"Die! They are dead." "Dead! Morton, Fairland, Scarborough—all!" cried Charles, naming the conspirators with a correctness which proved that he was well acquainted with the agents as well as with the murderous nature of the plot.

"All, your grace; and all London believes that Charles Stuart was in the Red House of the Thames, and is still within the city. It will be very hard for your Majesty to escape now."

"I can die but once man, and I am as well prepared to die now as ever I can be," replied the reckless King, carelessly, as he

sucked at the hilt of his sword and fixed his eyes upon those of the alchemist.

"He is plainly desperate," thought the latter, "and a good bargain may be made with him."

"How is it, Reginald Brame, that you have not seized the chance to make the pretty sum of thirty thousand pounds for delivering your King into the hands of his enemies?" demanded Charles, quickly. "Come, sit in that chair—I will sit upon the bed; for it puts my teeth on edge to see you bending under this low ceiling."

Reginald sat down, and Charles continued—

"Now, why is it that Reginald Brame has not gained the thirty thousand pounds, when report says he loves gold more than life itself?"

"Did not your Majesty think of that before you left Holland?"

"Not once," said Charles, with a light laugh. "'Tis said Charles Stuart never takes counsel with Madam Wisdom, but ever clings to Mistress Folly. Our Royal self is in London, in a chamber like a dungeon, and our Royal self has to escape. And where is the beautiful Mistress Lenora?" he asked, with sudden animation.

"The fool!" thought the alchemist. "He bears rather in his mind a pretty face than a monarch's crown. Now, out upon the shallow fool whom chance has made the heir of England's throne! What if fate had given Herbert Redburn the opportunities of this Royal simpleton! Mistress Lenora has fled with the Earl of Branchland, your grace."

"She has!" cried Charles, his brow growing dark. "There is more Stuart fortune. Reginald Brame, take our Royal word for it, there is no fairer lady in Europe than Mistress Lenora. It is a pity she loves the earl instead of the King."

He knitted his brows in unpleasant thought; but the alchemist gave him no time for brooding.

"Your Majesty," said he, this is no time to speak of ladies nor of ladies' charms. Your highness must escape from England."

"Of course. But who is to aid me?"

"I, your Majesty, or I would be ashamed to show my face," replied the alchemist, proudly. "My brain put in motion the plot which would not have been so easily crushed but by treachery. My invitation brought your Majesty to London, and I alone of all in England, at this time, can place not merely safety with your Majesty, but upon your head the crown of England."

Charles Stuart kept his eyes fixed upon those of the speaker, and he saw that he was in earnest.

"You can? Then fortune is better to us than we deemed, Reginald Brame. But will you? Five thousand times had we rather hear you say, 'I will,' than 'I can.'"

"I will—upon proper consideration," replied Reginald, in a low tone, meant to impress, as it did, his hearer.

"Proper consideration! Gold, eh?" said the impoverished Prince. "Now, know that there is no ragged trooper in Cromwell's army that is not more wealthy than Charles Stuart. But for the purse of Lord Albert of Branchland, Charles Stuart were now in Holland living like a bear, if he lived at all, by sucking his thumb."

"Gold I do not ask, your Majesty, for I am as well informed of the means in the treasury of the King as himself."

"Go on, man," said Charles, eyeing the alchemist distrustfully, and no longer sucking the hilt of his sword, but grasping it firmly.

"Had your Majesty not persuaded, as doubtless you did, the Earl of Branchland and the knight to accompany you, I do not think the plot would have failed. My apprentice, one Simon Brown, is the traitor, and I believe he was, as your Majesty, smitten with the charms of Lenora, my daughter. I do not know, however, how much he learned of the conspiracy, nor of the presence of your Majesty, and also, as it appears from what the usurper said to me, of the presence of Lord Albert and Sir James. I know somebody found it out, and I am sure Simon Brown is the man. He was intended to be an ignorant agent, but he forced himself into the conspiracy as a chief. He loves Lenora, and no doubt, having discovered that Lord Albert was the accepted lover of the maiden, resolved to ruin all to accomplish the ruin of his rival. I was the heart, the head, the soul of the conspiracy, and I am unhurt, and but for your indiscretion the plot would not have failed."

The King simply inclined his head. He believed that the alchemist was stating the truth, as indeed he was, and he was startled at the boldness of the man, and by his imperious bearing.

"I say that I can make your Majesty master of England within a month, but Oliver Cromwell must first die."

"Then let him die," said Charles, gravely.

"Who shall put him aside, your grace?" asked the alchemist. "Hundreds have plotted his death or overthrow, and failed. He seems to possess some mighty charm with which he defies his enemies and their most secret conspiracies. Yet he can be removed, and I can remove him; but I need not tell your Majesty that the undertaking would be perilous. To undertake it my reward must be large."

"You speak in riddles, man. Tell us what you desire," cried Charles, tartly. "It seems we are hiring a bravo or a poisoner, but destiny drives us. Cromwell would take off the head of Charles Stuart if he could; and, gad's life!" he exclaimed, with great bitterness, "it is but fair that Charles Stuart should defend himself."

"Of course it is but justice, your Majesty. He would not hesitate to slay you as he slew his late Majesty. But to the point. Before I undertake to lay him low I must receive from King Charles the Second a full pardon for all crimes and misdemeanours, a full clearance of all attainds and fines now resting upon the name of Herbert Redburn, of Essex."

"Herbert Redburn, of Essex? And what is he to Reginald Brame, the alchemist?" demanded the King, evidently surprised.

"I am Herbert Redburn, of Essex," replied the alchemist, in a tone of pride, as if he knew the infamy attached to that name and rejoiced in it.

"You!" cried Charles, shrinking somewhat from his companion. "And it is possible that Herbert Redburn is the father of that fair and virtuous maiden?"

"What has your Majesty to do with her in this matter? It has pleased your Majesty to love her lightly, but without my aid she will ever dislike you."

"Ah," cried the King, "then for your pardon you will help me both in politics and in love?"

"Not merely for pardon, your Majesty. My desire goes beyond mere pardon. I must be made Duke of Langford."

"But if you are Herbert Redburn the present duke is your brother. And that reminds me that the Redburns are said to claim a not distant relationship by blood with the Royal Stuarts. Is that true?"

"It may be your grace, I have never claimed the kindred."

"I trust not," exclaimed the thoughtless King, with an expression of disgust.

The eyes of the alchemist sparkled dangerously, but he was a man who hid his anger when it clashed with his interest.

"Time flies, your grace. My proposition is before your Majesty," he said, coldly.

"And when shall the thing be done?"

"Oliver Cromwell shall not live to see the end of the present year if your Majesty write and sign my full pardon and my patent to the estates, title and succession of Langford. He may fall within a month or a week—certainly within this year. Here are pens, ink, and parchment."

Charles Stuart was ever a reckless King, even when he sat upon

the throne; but when he conspired with the alchemist he was more than reckless—he was desperate.

He wrote at the dictation of the alchemist, nor raised his head until he had inscribed his signature and title and affixed his Royal seal with the ring he wore.

"Thou hast been a great villain, Duke of Langford," he said, in that careless tone which belonged to his unscrupulous nature, "but though art pardoned, estates, and titled, so far as Charles Stuart can make thee. There, take the scrawl, and may the time soon come when thou canst use it, for now it is mere parchment stained with ink."

"The time shall travel fast, your grace," replied the alchemist, as he folded the two parchments, and placed them carefully in his bosom.

"And Lenora?" asked the King.

"Your Majesty may make her a duchess or a countess of your own creation," said the alchemist, with a meaning smile.

"We must first catch the hare; and that reminds us that we are at this moment the hardest hunted hare in all England, with Oliver Cromwell hallooing on the hounds."

"The hounds shall not catch the Royal hare," replied the alchemist, following the conceit. "Your Majesty must depart for Holland this night. When your grace returns it will be at the invitation of England."

"We must remain in this den till night—or is it day without?"

"It is day, and will be a fair one, your grace. Sleep, your Majesty, for you must be fresh and strong to-night."

Charles shrugged his shoulders, a habit he had learned in France. The prospect of remaining shut up like a prisoner in that cramped chamber for twelve or fifteen long and tedious hours was anything but pleasant to one of his mercurial disposition.

"And can I not venture forth like a fox from his covert all day?"

"Remember, your grace, how nearly your Majesty had ruined all by that rash trick of the closet and the mask," said the alchemist, gravely.

"Yet I had the satisfaction of frightening old red-nosed Noll until his eyes stared like a lobster," laughed Charles.

"But your Majesty's escape depended upon a mere chance. I have your Majesty's promise not to reveal to any one that I am Herbert Redburn, I believe?"

"Your secret is safe with us," replied the King.

"And also the promise of your Majesty to attempt no movement from this room until night?"

"I suppose I must submit," said Charles, reluctantly.

"Better one day here, your Majesty, than a dungeon in the Bloody Tower, to be followed by the scaffold," said the alchemist, rising to depart.

"You say that Lady Lenora, as we must call her, has escaped," remarked the King, with an animation which proved that his giddy thoughts ran more upon love than the danger of his situation; "but I trust you can prevent her flight from England as the wife of Lord Albert. I believe he intends to make her his countess."

"As Lenora is now with the earl," replied the alchemist, "I can hardly regain possession of her without causing the capture of the earl; and it is very probable that unless he be speedily caught he will make her his wife."

"Brame," said the unprincipled King, in a low voice, "see to it that Lady Lenora becomes not the Countess of Branchland. If you keep your promise as regards the usurper, Lord Albert, if captured, will suffer but brief imprisonment."

"I know not that, your Majesty," replied the alchemist, shaking his head. "The Protector sometimes makes quick work with captured Royalists."

"No matter. We lay upon you our Royal command to prevent the flight and marriage of Lady Lenora with the Earl of Branchland. It is fitting," said the Royal scoundrel, "that the King should be the guardian of his subjects, as a father watches over his children. We have in our eye a higher match for Lord Albert than the daughter of Herbert Redburn."

"The puff-d-up simpleton!" thought the alchemist. "He forgets that he is a beggar, and prates of his Royal prerogative as if he sat firmly upon the throne. Where will he be if Cromwell sends me word that he has accepted my proposition?"

"As far as it lies in my power, your Majesty," he said, aloud, "I will prevent the flight of Lady Lenora."

"If possible, without harm or detention of the earl, remember."

"It shall be so, your Majesty. And now adieu for a short time," said the alchemist, bowing and descending the iron ladder.

He soon re-appeared in the small apartment in which he had left Lady Eleanor, but Lady Eleanor had disappeared.

The time consumed by his interview with the King had not been more than half an hour, if so much; and though his crazed victim was of a restless mood, he felt somewhat surprised on not finding her on guard.

"I neglected to use the lash and the noose," he muttered, as his vindictive eyes flashed about the room in search of her. "I should have punished her severely. My tincture must have grown weak. I should have given her more, yet I dislike to totally destroy her mind; for should it chance that I needed the favour of my brother, her restoration to sanity and to him would gain his forgiveness. Silly fool! he never could carry resentment when pardon was asked and amends made by the offender. But for the fear that I might some day need her, I would long since have removed her."

He now searched among the rooms of the vicinity, and in every obscure corridor, knowing that it was his victim's habit to crouch and moan in dark hiding places, beating her emaciated breast and twisting her long white hair.

"She may have strayed back to Lenora's room, he said, frowning angrily as he found no traces of her presence. "I will punish her severely, the wretch. This disobedience is dangerous."

His search now began to become very eager and rapid. He entered the room occupied by Captain Blood. The formidable trooper still slept, but Lady Eleanor was not there. He hurried to the chambers adjoining, and into that of Lenora, but found no sign of his missing victim.

The alchemist, who had not closed his eyes in sleep for thirty hours, now had recourse to his drugs to infuse fresh vigour into his wearied frame; and, filling a goblet with wine, washed them down hastily. The sudden disappearance of Lady Eleanor alarmed him, and to search every hole and court of that immense building would be a great tax upon his time and strength.

"Fate may be closing around me," he muttered, as he drew his long robe about him, with a gesture suited to the thought. "closing around me like a winding-sheet, to enfold me in the tomb. I feel a depression of body and mind which warns me of impending danger."

He now renewed his search, and made the vacant halls, corridors, and chambers of the Red House echo with the name of Mag Floss, repeating that name in tones of alternate anger and persuasion.

But no Mag Floss replied, nor appeared.

Captain Blood, roused for an instant, raised himself upon his elbow, glared wildly around, muttered an oath, and said:— "It is the devil of the Red House calling his witch!" and sank back into lethargic sleep again.

"She may have strolled to the river gate," thought the alarmed alchemist, as he directed his search thitherward.

As he emerged from that gate, and stood upon the stone steps, his anxious glances, reaching across the Thames, noticed instantly the disappearance of the solitary house of Freeman's marsh, and the rapid approach of the boat containing Colonel Raymond St. Luke, as related in the preceding chapter.

(To be continued.)

THE DRAWING ROOM.

THE PARISIAN FASHIONS.

A DESCRIPTION of the splendid marriage that has recently been solemnised at St. Petersburg was given last week in the *Queen*; but as several of the toilettes worn on the occasion were made in Paris, and were inspected by me previous to being forwarded to the Russian capital, I am in a position to give your readers some fuller details on the subject.

The youthful Queen of the Greeks' wedding dress was composed of an exceedingly rich material—silver-cloth, brocaded all over with bouquets worked with shining silver thread; a white sash studded with diamonds, a plastron of diamonds in the Byzantine style on the bodice, and large diamond buttons descending the entire length of the skirt. The Princess wore on her head a Royal coronet in gold, and from beneath it a magnificent lace veil escaped. The top of the comb which fastened up the chignon was thickly encrusted with splendid diamonds. I must still add to this magnificent array by recording that the bride's earrings and bracelets were composed entirely of diamonds.

The Grand Duchess of Constantine (the Queen of the Greeks, mother) likewise wore a brocaded silver dress, but trimmed with wide bands of crimson velvet; these bands descended each side of the front breadth, and were separated by a narrow band of cloth of gold studded with emeralds, pearls, and diamonds, sewn on to describe a grecque on each band. The bodice was trimmed with ermine and marvellous agrafes of precious stones.

Mlle. Bataillon made several toilettes for the fets that were given subsequent to the marriage, and those that I saw certainly bore the impress of that true Parisian taste for which this noted French dressmaker has so long and so justly been celebrated.

Two toilettes, one for a court ceremony, and the other for a ball, ordered by the Baroness de T—, merit a description.

The court dress was white tulle bouillonne almost to the waist; the bouillonnes decreased in size as they neared the top, and over this was thrown a plain tulle skirt unhemmed round the edge; in front of this skirt was a tablier of blue velvet butterflies; they were as light as it was possible to make them, and they also were covered with a plain tulle skirt. As the tulle was exceedingly fine and silky, it had all the effect of a gossamer cloud over the butterflies. The skirt was a rich sky-blue satin, decorated with applications of silver flowers. The bodice described a sort of revers, bordered with blue satin and fringed with silver; the folds in front were continued as low as the waist.

The dinner dress was pink silk-gauze; the skirt was bordered with narrow flounces, each edged with pink mossy fringe; a wide satin sash, tied at the back with a large rosette. A low bodice cut square at the back; the top was entirely made of folds of white tulle arranged to simulate a guimpe.

Another toilette, likewise for the Russian Court, and worn by the Princess D—, was of white tulle. The skirt was not bouillonne, but caught up at intervals over another tulle skirt, which gave the tout ensemble a very cloud-like effect; at the back only there was a narrow tunic of grosgrain velvet. This terminated squarely, and was bordered at intervals with agrafes of rubies and pearls, fastening down a rich gold gimp, which was sewn upon the edge of the tunic.

The last was a Court dress: the material silver cloth, and the skirt plain; the manteau de cour or train, which was bordered with silver lace, was fastened on the shoulders with bows of precious stones. The bodice was silver cloth, with folds of white tulle and berthe of silver lace; the train was lined with pale green satin; a bandeau of bright green velvet with sprays of diamonds, encircled the front of the head.

In my last letter I alluded to the costumes of faillie trimmed with bands of otter skin; to complete them, a small toque, made only of otter skin, and ornamented with a spray of feather flowers, is now added. For example, Marguerites are represented with white feathers, and bronze-coloured buds are exquisitely copied with rich-looking brown feathers.

Toquets called Princess Charmants are also made in velveteen, or, as this popular material is named in Paris "Velours Anglaise." These hats are usually decorated with two white feathers fastened down with a jet agrafe.

Jet diddies remain very much in favour, and the aristocracy have chosen a very original idea of giving them an individual value. They order their heraldic coronets to be made in jet; some are decorated with large round beads, like the coronet of a countess; others with fleurons, like that of a marchioness. I saw the other day the two noble belles, the Comtesse de Lutrat and the Duchess of Frias, each wearing a black lace bonnet with their respective coronets in jet over their foreheads.

M. Hausman has recently presented to the Empress of the French a magnificent piece of jewellery, in the name of the city of Paris, and which her Majesty wore for the first time at the banquet offered to the Emperor of Austria. It is a brooch representing the arms of the city of Paris, which are partly gules and azure; the azure is in sapphires, and the gules in rubies; the vessel, emblematic of the old city, is entirely in diamonds.

The ladies of the municipal corps also wore the arms of the city at the banquet on an agrafe of enamel, which was fastened on the left shoulder. Doubtless it is this resurrection of arms that has set afloat the idea of the heraldic coronets alluded to above.

The Empress intends shortly to start for Nice. The Villa Frémy has been prepared for her Majesty, who will be accompanied by the Prince Imperial and the ladies of her household. There are to be no series of visitors at Compiegne this year; the reason assigned is that the splendid receptions given to so many crowned heads and princes have necessitated an extraordinary expenditure, leaving thereby no great margin for the usual winter gaieties.

The exhibition of winter goods at the Petit St. Thomas, a very favourite shop for novelties, has been particularly good this season. Francis Joseph, during his visit to Paris, quite set the fashion of Hungarian jackets embroidered with gold. Ladies have appropriated these rich garments to themselves, and the "Hungarian," or, as it is occasionally called, the "Elizabeth" palotot, is to be seen at the various magazines de nouveautés here. It is made in black, dark blue, and also in Sevres blue cloth, and is ornamented with broad old braid, framed in a design carried out in gold soutache. It fastens at the side with a row of small chased gold buttons, and its wide sleeves are almost covered with gold soutache. It is very stylish, and regarded as a dressy garment, notwithstanding its being made of cloth. This "Elizabeth" palotot is also made in white and in deep crimson cloth, and then it is intended for carriage or evening wear. It will quite take the place of the Breton jacket.

Short costumes are made of cloth and of serge, and both are embroidered with black silk. In cloth, the colour called "sailor blue" is selected in preference to any other, for this rich style of hand ornamentation. A favourite design is an insertion, broken at intervals by a long lance-like leaf falling over it; this has a graceful effect, both on the skirt, petticoat, and jacket of a short costume. The fashionable colours for faillie dresses are Bismarck of various shades (more or less golden), Bordeaux or claret, Régence (a pale and a very becoming shade of pink) and, lastly, Mierva green, a new shade, which is very dark, reminding me somewhat of the foliage of an olive tree. This peculiar shade of green is apparently much approved of for short costumes.—*Queen*.

On Saturday forenoon a fire broke out, from some inexplicable cause, at the Hungerford Railway Station, Berkshire, on the Great Western Railway, and a high wind blowing at the time it was burnt to the ground with surprising rapidity. By great exertions the other buildings were saved from a similar destruction.

THE GARDEN.

HARDY FRUIT GARDEN.

This is the proper time to make and plant cuttings of the several varieties of gooseberries and currants. Strong young shoots of the current season's growth, with a portion of older wood taken off therewith, and cut to form a neat heel to each, if dibbled in some few inches apart, in good rich soil, will root freely, and form strong plants during the ensuing summer. Much time will be saved by purchasing strong plants of desirable sorts forthwith. Of gooseberries, the following are excellent varieties, viz.,—Whitemouth and Yellow Sulphur, which are early kinds; Whipper-in, Crown Bob, Green Gage, and Glorious, second early sorts; Champagne, Independent, Large Late Green, and Warrington, late good preserving qualities, &c. Amongst currants, select Black Naples, Red Ruby Castle, and White Grape. Such bush fruits generally do light in good old pasture turf, well chopped up, and applied to the roots quite green. They also have a peculiar affection for chalk in proper quantity, say an eighth part as compared with the bulk of soil with which it has to be mixed. Bush fruit should not be pruned until the early spring months have arrived, a practice which diminishes the injury caused to the flowering spray by birds. Newly-planted fruit trees, of whatever sort, should now have a surface dressing of well decayed manure placed over the roots for the purpose of protecting them from severe frosts when such arrive. This will be found a good time for taking up and root pruning any trees which have become "wood proud." Remove the soil from around the roots with the utmost care, in order not to injure any of the smaller more fibrous rootlets, and prune back to about half their length all along, main, or sappy roots. Be careful in doing so, however, to leave a clean wound, devoid of anything in the shape of jagged edges. When this operation is performed, re-plant immediately. Spread the smaller, more useful roots evenly out all around, making them do duty for the grosser ones in every way possible.

HARDY FLOWER GARDEN.

Where the past excellent weather for planting indoor bulbs has not been taken advantage of, it is advisable to get all such in without further delay. Ranunculuses should be also planted soon. It will be well, therefore, to look over the dried roots; remove any symptoms of decay therefrom, and otherwise prepare them for planting. Lawns will now need special attention. Roll them well over occasionally, and by every other means keep them free from worm casts, which are troublesome at this season. Where these are numerous, upon large pieces of sward, the readiest way of removing them is to run a wooden roller over the grass, when the casts will adhere to it. This roller for this purpose might be made much wider than from ones, which are more cumbersome. Secure by the aid of stakes, &c., any freshly planted trees or shrubs, &c., in anticipation of winds, from which, however, we have been tolerably free as yet this season.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Look through the stock of shallots and garlic, and should any be sprouting plant them forthwith in the open ground. It is waste to throw them away—a too common practice. They thrive well planted at this season, and form good bulbs next summer. Do not plant them too deeply; they should, in fact, not be buried wholly from sight. Celery, in a general way, will now require a good earthing up, which will serve as a protection from frost. In earthing up those rows which are not intended for use yet, do not press the soil too closely together upon either side at the top of the mounds, but afford as much air as possible, which will materially increase its keeping capabilities. The earlier batch of sea-kale intended to be forced in the open ground should now have the necessary pots placed over the crowns, afterwards to be covered with leaves, or a slight quantity of fermenting material. Begin with a maximum heat of 55 degrees, increasing it gradually to a good warmth. No air must by any means be admitted after forcing has begun.—*W. E. in the Gardener's Chronicle*.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REFORM LEAGUE ON THINGS IN GENERAL.

MR. EDMOND BEALES, having returned to town, made a long speech at a meeting of the council of the Reform League. Referring to the censure passed upon him by the League some time since in consequence of his having been misunderstood as intending to denounce Fenianism, Mr. Beales said:—"One of the things which has always given me most pride and pleasure in occupying the position of President of the Reform League is, that I preside over men of the utmost spirit of independence and the most sterling downright honesty and strength of character, who are not tools or instruments, or dopes, or puppets in the hands of others, but who never hesitate to say what they conscientiously think to be right, and are as ready to criticise and oppose me as any one else whenever they cannot conscientiously agree with me. It is a real pride and pleasure to me to be the president of such men, and whilst I rejoice in reflecting how harmoniously, cordially, and triumphantly we have on most occasions acted together, I cannot lament that on the occasion to which I refer, they as usual exhibited their sturdy spirit of independence, though I regret the shape in which it was exhibited. They have, however, I am sure, been themselves misunderstood. They never intended to advocate the redress of political grievances by assassination and physical force, in preference to legal and constitutional combination and moral force. They only wished to prevent the untoward occurrence at Manchester from being made the means, in a moment of panic, of exasperating the minds of the English people against the Irish generally, and thus retarding those measures of reform which are so urgently required to secure the peace and prosperity of that country. Here I leave the matter. We are, I am sure, all of one mind as to this—namely, that we will work for Ireland as heartily as for England; that we regard the Irish as our political brethren, and that there is not one single measure—reform in the representation, or anything else—which we would demand for the benefit, politically or socially, of Englishmen which we are not prepared equally to demand for Irishmen; we covet a real union between the two peoples." The learned gentleman criticised Mr. Disraeli's Edinburgh speech, in respect to which he observed that the Reformers would be indeed the "nincompoops of politics," if, like the Edinburgh Conservatives, they accepted the Government measure of last session, which he called a gross fraud, as a real measure of household suffrage. If (said Mr. Beales) we are the nincompoops of politics, what must be the Derby-Disraeli Government that was obliged to yield to us? The Government that not only met us with big menaces, but actually called out against us a goodly array of cavalry, infantry, and artillery—to say nothing of Sir Richard Mayne and his gendarmes, and Mr. Knox and his special constables; and then when we snapped our fingers at all this bluster, and marched on straight and fearlessly to our object slunk away like a miserable cur with its tail between its legs, and confessed that we were right after all, both as to the law and the Constitution. Let Mr. Disraeli (he added) be assured of this, that he is merely our servant, that he shall yet do our bidding, or give way to others who will. Mr. Beales concluded by giving an account of a visit he had paid to "a real man"—Garibaldi, denouncing "the infamous intervention" of the Emperor Napoleon and "the vile treachery" of Victor Emmanuel.

The town council of Sunderland has, by a majority of twenty-seven to twenty-five, refused to pay the cost of revolvers and ammunition recently sent down by the Government for the use of the local police force. The ground of objection was that there was no trace of Fenianism in the town, and that the arming of the police was an unconstitutional proceeding.

LITERATURE.

"The Trapper's Guide: a Manual of Instructions for Capturing all kinds of Fur-bearing Animals and Curing their Skins. By S. Newhouse. (London: Trubner and Co.)

As for the food with which the trapper is to regale himself, Mr. Newhouse gives us this dainty bill of fare:—

"The very best way of cooking fish and fowl ever devised is familiar to woodmen, but unknown to city epicures. It is this: Take a large fish—say a trout of three or four pounds, fresh from its gambols in the cool stream—cut a small hole at the neck and abstract the intestines. Wash the inside clean, and season it with pepper and salt; or if convenient, fill it with stuffing made of bread-crumbs or crackers chopped up with meat. Make a fire outside the tent, and when it has burned down to embers, rake it open, put in the fish, and cover it with the coals and hot ashes. Within an hour take it from its bed, peel off the skin from the clean flesh, and you will have a trout with all its original juices and flavours preserved within it; a dish to good, as Isaac Walton would say, 'for any but very honest men.' Grouse, ducks, and various other fowls can be cooked deliciously in a similar way. The intestines of the bird should be taken out by a small hole at the vent, and the inside washed and stuffed as before. Then wet the feathers thoroughly, and cover with hot embers. When the cooking is finished, peel off the burnt feathers and skin, and you will find underneath a lump of nice juicy flesh, which, when once tasted, will never be forgotten. The peculiar advantage of this method of roasting is that the covering of embers prevent the escape of the juices by evaporation."

Otters will seldom eat bait, but they will generally smell it. As for musk-rats, the following account is too interesting to be shortened:—

"Musk-rats have a curious method of travelling long distances under the ice. In their winter excursions to their feeding-grounds, which are frequently at great distances from their abodes, they take in breath at starting and remain under the water as long as they can. They then rise up to the ice, and breathe out the air in their lungs, which remains in bubbles against the lower surface of the ice. They wait till this air renews oxygen from the water and the ice, and then take it in again and go on till the operation has to be repeated. In this way they can travel almost any distance, and live any length of time under the ice. The hunter sometimes takes advantage of this habit of the musk-rat, in the following manner: When the marshes and ponds where musk-rats abound are first frozen over and the ice is thin and clear, on striking into their houses with his hatchet for the purpose of setting his traps, he frequently sees a whole family plunge into the water and swim away under the ice. Following one of them for some distance, he sees him come up to renew his breath in the manner above described. After the animal has breathed against the ice, and before he has had time to take his bubble in again, the hunter strikes with his hatchet directly over him and drives him away from his breath. In this case he drowns in swimming a few rods, and the hunter, cutting a hole in the ice, takes him out. Mink, otter, and beaver travel under the ice in the same way; and hunters have frequently told me of taking otter in the manner I have described, when these animals visit the houses of the musk-rat for prey."

There is something cold-blooded in the way in which the otter's sportive love of sliding is turned to account. The place where the otters slide down banks and slopes "are found at intervals on all the streams and routes they haunt," and in the steepest part of one of these slides the trapper sets a "claw-trap," which is carefully secreted. The otter, shooting down from the top of the bank with his legs under him, comes full up on this trap, which springs and strikes him with its projecting claws in the centre of the body. Of the other methods in use for taking the otter, the following is equally open to objection:—

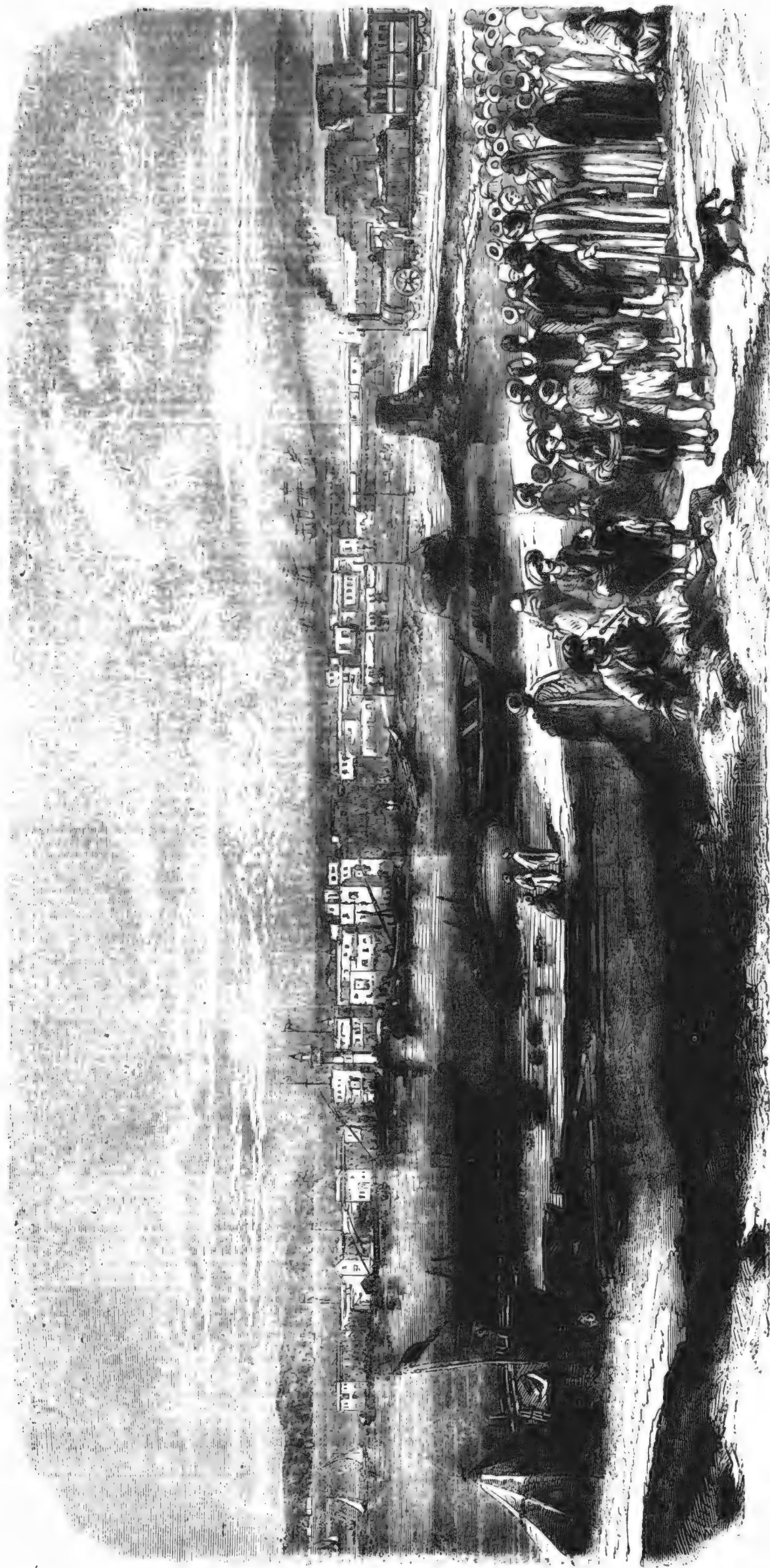
"The art of taking otter in the winter under the ice is not generally understood by trappers, and deserves an explanation. These animals to not hibernate, but travel about in winter as well as summer. In the coldest weather they keep their feeding-places in the ice open, and are frequently seen near the edges, playing, sliding, and catching fish. They can be taken by the following process:—Ascertain the depth of water at one of these holes, and cut a pole, suitable to the ring of the chain, and long enough to raise some distance above the ice when the butt is driven into the bottom. The ring of the chain should be slipped on the butt before it is driven, and should be free to traverse the length of the pole, except that a twig should be left near the lower end to prevent it from slipping off when you come to raise the trap. Two branches should emerge from one place towards the upper end, and should be left three or four inches long. Drive the pole so that these branches will be about eight inches below the ice, and fill into the fork of the branches with evergreens, so as to give the appearance of a bird's nest. Set your trap on this nest, and the otter, climbing over it to assist him in emerging from the water, will spring it and be taken. Then he will make a desperate plunge to the bottom of the stream, and the ring of the chain sliding down on the pole, he will be unable to rise again and will drown. In this way many can be taken successively in a single tray. They travel mostly under the ice in winter, and in their rounds visit all the feeding-places on their way; and are often taken in traps set as above directed, when the holes are entirely frozen over."

"History of the United Netherlands: from the Death of William the Silent to the Twelve Years' Truce—1609." By John Lothrop Motley, D.C.L. Vols. III. and IV. 1590—1609. With Portraits. (Murray.)

The most brilliant portions of these volumes lie in the stirring episodes. Here is one worthy of perusal:—

"Mansfield at last came ponderously up to the neighbourhood of Turnhout. There was a brilliant little skirmish, in the neighbourhood of this place, in which a hundred and fifty Dutch cavalry under the famous brothers Bax defeated four hundred picked lancers of Spain and Italy. But Mansfield could get nothing but skirmishes. In vain he plunged about among the caltrops and man-traps. In vain he knocked at the fortifications of Hohenlo on the east and of Maurice on the west. He found them impracticable, impregnable, obdurate. It was Maurice's intention to take his town at as small sacrifice of life as possible. A trumpeter was sent on some trifling business to Mansfield, in reply to a communication made by that general to Maurice. 'Why does your master,' said the choleric veteran to the trumpeter, 'Why does Prince Maurice, being a lusty young commander as he is, not come out of his trenches into the open field and fight me like a man, where honour and fame await him?'—'Because my master,' answered the trumpeter, 'means to live to be a lusty old commander like your excellency, and sees no reason to-day to give you an advantage.' At this the bystanders laughed, rather at the expense of the veteran."

The stall-keepers and the costermongers of White-chapel and its neighbourhood have adopted a petition to Parliament respecting the terrible amount of want and suffering which they anticipate will be caused to not fewer than 50,000 of the poor of London if the sixth clause of the New Metropolitan Street Act be carried into full execution. The petitioners earnestly pray that Clause 6 of the New Metropolitan Street Act may be enforced only where the necessities of the traffic absolutely require it.



THE ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION—VIEW OF SUEZ.

THE ABYSSINIAN WAR.

We give three illustrations this week which are interesting at the present time owing to the Abyssinian Expedition, respecting which we subjoin the following public opinions:—

The Daily News insists that the Government must be asked to state clearly and fully what aims and intentions it asks Parliament to sanction with respect to the war. Does the administration adopt the wild-goose theory, and feel bound to enter upon a war of conquest, to give a satisfaction to our enterprising Indian officers who, since the return of Lord Dalhousie and the abandonment of his annexation policy, have languished in discouragement? Or are we going to Abyssinia as social regenerators, as Louis Napoleon went to Mexico? Or is it the lost key of the Eastern question, which Sir Robert Napier is to look for among the mountains of Abyssinia? Or have our abounding prosperity, the success of joint-stock enterprise, the magnitude of railway dividends, the activity of our great industries, and the tranquillity and harmony of our populations, engendered a superabundance of joyous animal spirits which we must expend in some great enterprise at any cost? These are questions which ought not to be left to the talk of dinner tables or the gossip of evening meetings. It is for the House of Commons to come to an understanding about them with the Government and to do so now.

The Times says that no one suspected on the eve of the promulgation

that the Royal Speech would contain an announcement that we were about to embark in a war with the half-civilized ruler of a more than half-savage country. It will rest upon Lord Stanley to justify the course thus pursued, and to appease the jealousy the House of Commons feels at an apparent attempt to withdraw the conduct of our national policy from its control. One need not speak of the difficulties of the expedition which has been actually planned. It does in truth appear that the natural difficulties to be encountered are very great. The point, however, to be decided is not whether this or that plan of attack shall be pursued, so much as whether any attack ought to be made. If we are to persevere—if we must acquiesce in the conclusion that the time for action can no longer be deferred, let us make up our minds to face the gloomy and uncertain future with this single consolation, that we shall in any case be able to test the efficiency of our military organization without being exposed to the overwhelming issues of a war for existence.

The Star asserts that the expedition could have been avoided in many ways. It might have been saved by carrying out the original arrangements made by Mr. Flad. It would certainly have been saved by inviting Theodore to send an embassy; for, like all parvenus, he was anxious to get his power recognized by established Governments. A dinner to his ambassador at the Mansion House, and the toast of "Prosperity to Abyssinia," which we all wish quite as much as prosperity to

Egypt or Turkey, would have made Theodore our friend for ever. As it is, we are in a fair way to make the people of Abyssinia, who are in no way responsible for the detention of the Consul, cursers of our name for ever. Parliament ought above all to have been consulted before the Indian army was employed in an expedition connected with the general policy of the empire. The British Parliament does not vote the supplies for the native Indian army, and it is clear that if the Crown can employ, of its own motion, that army out of India, it will soon prove itself independent of the House of Commons in matters of peace and war.

PRESBYTERIANISM IN EGYPT.

By recent advices from Cairo we learn that the Viceroy's Government still persists in its crusade against the efforts of the American Presbyterian Mission to promote education among the Copts. It appears that the Government has succeeded in closing their schools at Asyout and Kus in Upper Egypt. The last act was to seize a Presbyterian named Fam Stephanos, who has been a Protestant for the last twenty years, and deport him, it was supposed, to the Blue Nile; but as the missionaries interfered he was stopped at Esneh and imprisoned there. By all accounts these missionaries are very estimable men, and take every precaution against giving a proselytizing character to their proceedings,

hard as such restraint may be to a Christian missionary. To educate the Christians of the East is the only practicable method of ameliorating their social condition. The mission at Cairo has appealed to our acting Consul-General to use his influence officially with that of the United States Consul-General for their protection, and it is to be hoped that the Foreign Office will support its representative in securing religious toleration in Egypt.

On Saturday the three Fenian leaders, convicted of treason felony at the Dublin Special Commission, were brought up for judgment. Ever since the days of Emmett convicted traitors in Ireland have thought it part of their role to make seditious and abusive speeches when called upon by the forms of the court to say if they have anything to urge why sentence should not be passed upon them according to law. It was not to be expected that three such notable orators and redoubtable chieftains as "Colonel" Warren, "General" Halpin, and "Captain" Costello should depart from this old established precedent; and accordingly they—

"Like very drabs,

Unpacked their hearts with cursing—" the Government and people of England, and the individuals on whose evidence they had been convicted. Warren and Halpin were sentenced each to fifteen and Costello to twelve years penal servitude.



THE RAILWAY THROUGH THE DESERT OF SUEZ.

DEASY'S ESCAPE.

THE Irish papers copy from the New York journals the particulars of the landing of Captain Timothy Deasy, the companion of Colonel Kelly, in New York. He was to have a reception, which was described as likely to be a "rouser." According to the letter of a man named Moynahan, an Irish Fenian now in New York, to the newspapers there, Deasy was assisted on board the ship which conveyed him from Great Britain by Kelly, the latter being dressed as a porter and "playing his role with the greatest sang froid." Some of the New York journals publish statements as to the de-structive intentions of the Fenians in English towns, which the Irish papers likewise copy. The *Cork Examiner* prints an original Fenian letter, in the genuineness of which the editor believes "from internal evidence." The writer says that "the night that succeeds the day they (the Manchester convicts) are to hang will see every town and city in England on fire, and it will be no small fire either, for there will be a good many in each town." "I need not tell you (it is added) that we have a goodly set of Fenians in each town. It is very easy to carry a few bottles for the work in their pockets. They have only to dash one through a window and the inside is in a blaze. Some of our English merchants will curse the hanging business. . . . The Government think they can quiet us by hanging a few. I tell them if they hang twenty thousand the remainder will be their enemies when the opportunity permits. We want none of their favours. Nothing short of a clear separation will please us, and that, thank God, we hope to have before long." The editor of the *Examiner* "does not think that he would be justified, on a point of etiquette [the writer not having authenticated his communication with his name], in withholding information as to opinions and intentions which it is well that the authorities should have an opportunity of reflecting upon."

THE travellers and clerks employed by Messrs. J. Dowson and Co., Commercial-road, Lambeth, were recently entertained at dinner by the firm; and before the company separated the principal partner presented each man with a sovereign for every year he had been employed. Some left the dinner-table richer by £30, we are informed.

THE INFLUENCE OF SCHOOL-BOOKS.

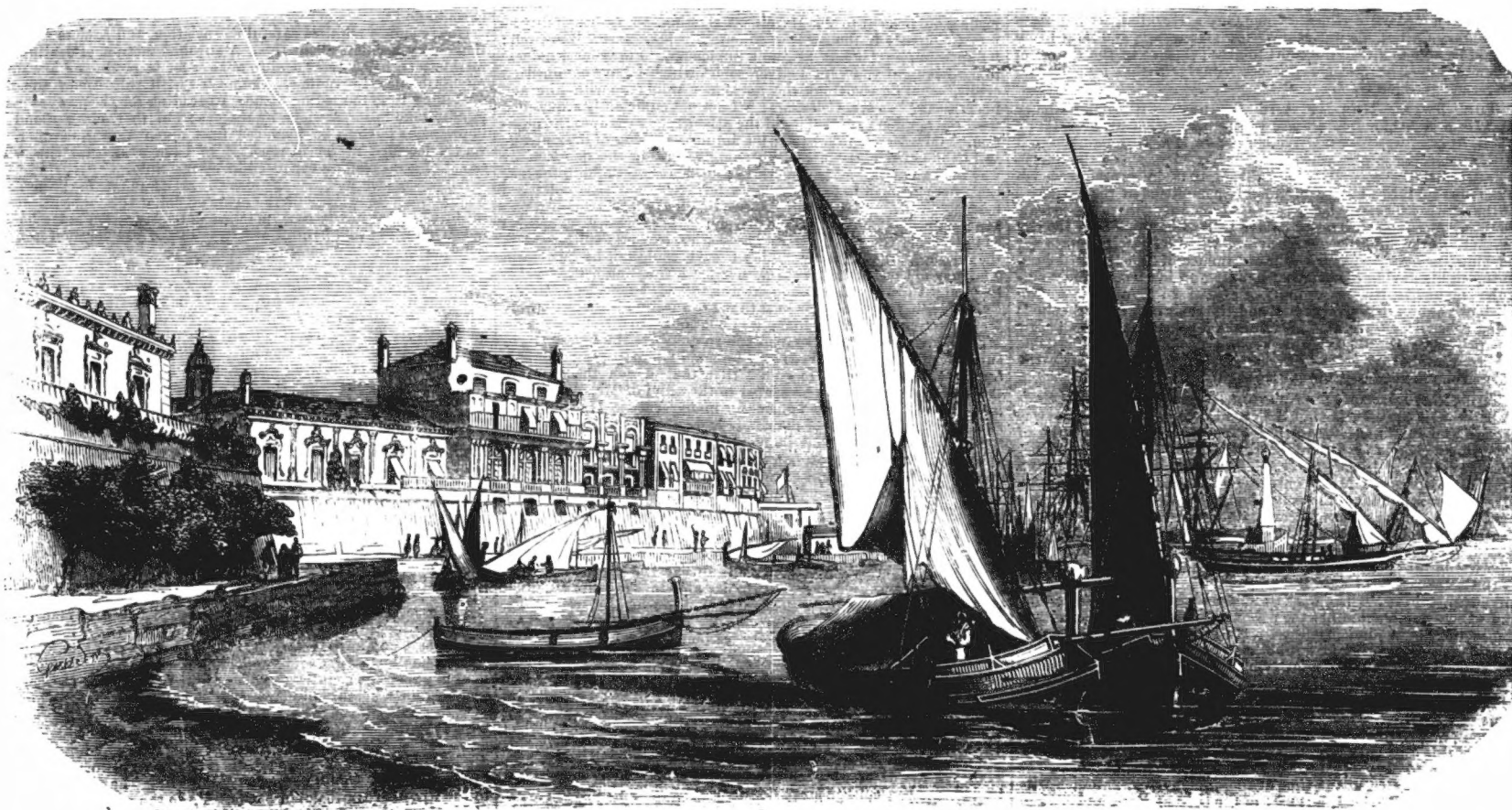
If any one of our readers is inclined to doubt the permanence and extent of the influence exercised by such books as Dr. Neale's English History, when they once get an established circulation, he has only to cast a glance at the books "subscribed for" at Mr. Murray's annual trade sale last week. He will there see that the demand for school-books which have obtained a recognised position is as steady as it is enormous. Among works not intended for schools Dr. Stanley's "Memorials of Westminster" was in by far the most demand, as many as 1,800 copies being disposed of. But when we come to works used in education the figures instantly mount up with a jump. Of Dr. Smith's "English-Latin Dictionary," 3,800 were sold; of his "Latin and Classical Dictionary," 8,000 copies; of his smaller histories, 7,500; of the "Student's Historical Manuals," 11,400; of Mrs. Markham's histories, 9,300; and of Smith's "Latin and Greek Course" no less than 14,000. But among them all, the sale of Mrs. Markham's books is the most remarkable. Mrs. Penrose, the lady who wrote under the *nom de plume* of "Mrs. Markham," has now been dead about thirty-five years, and yet the demand for her books, which are pleasingly-written compilations of the old school of history, is still as lively as ever; and no doubt the historical belief of very many young Englishmen, and still more those of young Englishwomen, has been materially formed by the writings of this amiable lady. How different will be the ideas of the generation which is being taught by Dr. Neale to disbelieve in Magna Charta, and to believe in the Divine right of kings, it is needless to suggest.

THE Diastatized Organic Iron and the Diastatized Organic Iodine are now fully appreciated by the English public as a pleasant and efficient mode of taking iron and iodine. Unhoped-for cures have been effected in a number of cases in which the other preparations of iron or iodine have been found incapable of being supported by the patients. Thanks and testimonials are received every day from all parts. In fact, these medicines, under their pleasant form, are found the most efficient.—Sold by all chemists, 2s. 9d. per bottle. Take note of Dr. Victor Baud's signature on the Government stamp, without which none are genuine.—[ADVT.]

MR. POTTER AND THE WORKING MEN.

MR. GEORGE POTTER is sanguine as to the prospects of his scheme for sending working men to Parliament. He was in the chair at a meeting held to consider an address which is to be issued to the public, setting forth the views and objects of the Working Men's Association in realizing a direct representation of the labour interest in Parliament by the return of working men as representatives. Appended to the address was a definition of what the association meant by working men for the purposes of the movement, and the platform upon which the candidates should make their appeal to the constituencies to whom it was thought expedient that working men should offer themselves. They defined working men to be those obtaining their living by the receipt of wages for mental or bodily labour performed, as distinguished from those who lived exclusively on the profits of trade, on accumulated property, or on the profits derived from the labour of others. The workmen's members are to advocate an extension of the franchise down to manhood suffrage, the ballot, a just redistribution of seats, the abolition of Church rates, improved relations between landlord and tenant, a national unsectarian system of education, legal protection for the funds of trade societies, a well-digested scheme of emigration, and the adoption of measures for facilitating the improvement of the dwellings and workshops of the labouring classes. The address as revised was unanimously adopted and signed by the committee, and ordered to be sent to the Liberal members of Parliament and others, and to the London and provincial press, with a respectful request for its insertion.

THE BLOOD, THE BLOOD.—When the blood is impure the whole body suffers. Then come indigestion, lowness of spirits, loss of flesh, nervousness, and a general feeling of discomfort. A course of "THE BLOOD PURIFIER," OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S SARSAPARILLA acts specifically on the blood, purifying it of all vitiated humours. The digestion becomes easy, the spirits buoyant, the body regains its strength, and the mind its tranquillity. Sold by all druggists. Chief Depot, 131, Fleet-street. Caution—Get the red and blue wrappers with the Old Doctor's head in the centre; no other genuine.—[ADVT.]



CAIRO.

LAW AND POLICE.

SERIOUS ASSAULT ON A TRADESMAN.—SCENE IN COURT.—Mr. William Odell, fishmonger, of 53, Camberwell New-road, was brought up on a warrant by Officer Budgen, 165 L, and charged before Mr. Elliott with committing a violent assault upon Mr. Alexander Urquhart, master plumber, painter, and glazier, of No. 12, St. Mark's-road Kennington.—Mr. Odell, solicitor, appeared for the defendant.—The complainant said that on Friday afternoon the defendant rushed into his shop, and using a fearful oath, seized him by the coat collar, and with his right hand struck him a violent blow on the left temple. They struggled together, as witness wished to turn defendant off the premises. In the struggle defendant threw witness on a bench and smashed some expensive glass.—In answer to Mr. Odell, the complainant said he had not spoken to the defendant for some months before the assault.—Mr. Odell denied the assault, and called the defendant's daughter who gave her version of the affair.—Mr. Elliott said no doubt defendant went to Mr. Urquhart's shop with the intention of committing a violent assault. He should fine him 20s. and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment. The parties had scarcely left the court, when Mr. Urquhart returned, and appealing to his worship, said he had been threatened by the defendant's sons, who were ordered into court, when, Mr. Urquhart having testified to the threats, the eldest son (Wm. Odell) was ordered to find one bail in £5 to keep the peace for a month.

CAUTION TO LICENSED VICTUALLERS REFUSING TO ADMIT THE POLICE.—Mr. Charles Solomon Dibbs, the landlord of the Queen Victoria Tavern, Blue Anchor-road, Bermondsey, was summoned for refusing to admit the police.—It appeared from the evidence of Sergeant Campbell, 3 M, that about two o'clock in the morning he was passing the defendant's house, when he saw a light inside, and heard voices and jingling of glasses. He knocked at the door, and called "Police." Some one came and partially opened the door, but seeing him it was slammed in his face. Shortly afterwards two persons left the house, and he demanded admission again, when, after two or three minutes, the door was opened, and he was admitted, when he noticed six men standing about, some of whom were smoking, but he saw no drink about.—Mr. Child, on behalf of the defendant, said it was all a mistake. His client was a highly respectable tradesman, and a meeting had taken place at his house, and at its conclusion several neighbours stopped talking with him. He neither heard the constable knock, nor did he know who opened the door and slammed it in the officer's face. He therefore trusted that the costs would be sufficient to meet the case.—Mr. Burcham observed that he could not allow such a charge to be passed over without a penalty. He must pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

BURGLARY AT A JEWELLER'S.—John Doyle and William Hall were finally examined, charged with burglariously breaking and entering the premises 8, Parkside, Knightsbridge, in the occupation of Mr. Starr, jeweller.—On Saturday morning at half-past one, Mr. Starr was aroused by a noise on the roof, and having sent for a policeman watched the operations of one or more persons on the roof, who made a hole sufficiently large to admit the body of a man, when the prisoner Doyle dropped into the shop and was captured. Hall was found at the rear of the premises in a ural shortly afterwards, and near him a formidable crowbar; he denied all knowledge of the other prisoner, but when he was taken to the station, Doyle, without being told the charge that was to be preferred against him, said, "Don't bring that man into it, he is innocent."—Peter Smith, 103 B, said he had ascertained that they were half-brothers by the same mother.—Mr. Smyth objected to such an unwarrantable statement, when Smith could have no chance of proving any such thing.—Mr. Selfe decided that it could not go on the depositions, as Smith could not prove it. He considered it his duty to commit both for trial.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A NURSE.—Mrs. Mary Ann Miller, the wife of a respectable tradesman residing in the New Kent-road, was brought before Mr. Burcham, charged with attempting to murder Mary Cattermole, 64 years of age, by cutting her throat with a razor, on the morning of the 1st inst.—It may be recollected that the injured woman had nursed several of the prisoner's children, and that the prisoner had had some trouble on her last confinement, since which time her intellect had been impaired, but it was not apprehended she would have attempted the life of her nurse. The latter was attending to the fire on the morning in question, and while stooping down the prisoner came behind her and inflicted a frightful gash across her throat with a razor. Fortunately none of the main arteries were severed.—Mr. Burcham asked whether the injured woman was able to leave the hospital?—Police-constable 58 M replied in the negative. He produced a medical certificate from Guy's Hospital, setting forth that Mary Cattermole was progressing favourably, and most likely would be able to attend the court to give evidence in the course of a few days.—The prisoner was accordingly further remanded to Horse-monger-lane Gaol.

THE SWELL MOB AT THE SURREY THEATRE.—Henry Hamilton, a fashionably-dressed young man, with an overcoat on his right arm, was placed at the bar before Mr. Burcham charged with attempting to pick pockets at the box entrance of the Surrey Theatre.—Police-constable 85 L, said that in consequence of numerous robberies having been lately committed at the entrances of the Surrey Theatre he was placed on duty there in private clothes. Between eleven and twelve he was standing near the box entrance as the audience were leaving, when he saw the prisoner pushing among the ladies. Witness immediately suspected him, owing to his having his overcoat hanging on his left arm in a singular manner. He accordingly watched him, and saw him distinctly go up to several ladies, and try their pockets, his actions being covered by the coat.—Mr. Burcham asked if he actually saw the prisoner's hand leave any person's pocket?—The Constable replied that he did.—Mr. Burcham remanded him to give the officer time to make some inquiries about him.

THE SHAM LOAN-OFFICE SWINDLE.—John Graham Whitting-stall, who it appears is much better known as Richards, was brought up on remand for further examination on the charge of obtaining a cheque for £10 from Mr. Blick, of Bowling-green-lane, Clerkenwell, by false pretences.—The prosecution was conducted by Mr. Harper, and Mr. Wontner, sen., defended the prisoner.—Mr. Harper said that as the police had not yet succeeded in apprehending the prisoner's confederate, Roberts, it would be necessary to ask for another remand. The case as against Whittingstall would, however, be strengthened by the examination of Mr. Pratt, who would prove that he had no such negotiation with the prisoner as the latter represented. Indeed the name of Whittingstall was unknown to him. There were two letters which would be put in, and which would show that the prisoner had been engaged in other transactions of a similar nature. He believed that hereafter he should be able to bring forward other charges.—Mr. Pratt, residing at Cuckfield, in Sussex, carrying on business for the last 30 years as a newspaper proprietor, in Bolt-court, Fleet-street, said he knew the prisoner, not by the name of Whittingstall, but by the name of Richards. He had never drawn a cheque for £100 for the prosecutor, Mr. Blick, and indeed had never heard of him till he heard of this case after the prisoner's apprehension. The prisoner had never made any application to him about lending money to Mr. Blick. In fact, at the time of the pretended negotiation witness was not in England, but part of the time at Paris and part of the time at Naples. The only transaction he ever had with the prisoner was in August and September, the last few days of the former month and first few of the latter. The prisoner at that

ime introduced to him a gentleman who wanted a loan of £150. Prisoner was a mere agent in the transaction.—By Mr. Wontner: Witness advanced the money to the gentleman on ample security, not at all on the credit of the prisoner, of whom he had hitherto known nothing, and who would not be liable if the borrower should not pay. Should not have entertained the transaction with Mr. Blick if it had been submitted to him. Never lent money without personal knowledge of the party.—Mr. Wontner: You did not know the gentleman you mention; but the prisoner introduced him to you?—Mr. Pratt: But I saw him personally, and called upon him at the Government office where he is engaged.—Mr. Wontner suggested that the prisoner might have believed that he could get the bill discounted by Mr. Pratt. The memorandum produced on the last occasion appointed to return the bill or the money, less discount, on Friday, and it now appeared that the £10 cheque was given on the Thursday.—Mr. Harper said that did not affect the charge, which was that the prisoner obtained the £10 cheque by the false pretence that a £100 cheque, drawn by Mr. Pratt in favour of Mr. Blick, was actually waiting at Mr. Pratt's office.—Mr. Wontner said he hoped the letters put in would not prejudice the magistrate's mind.—Mr. Flowers: If I were disposed to be prejudiced I may have received a great many letters myself. But I do not think it fair to pay any attention to them. I endeavour to confine my mind to the evidence.—The prisoner was again remanded.

A FORGER ARRESTED IN THE HAYMARKET.—Charles Savidge, a respectably-dressed lad of 17, was charged before Mr. Alderman Lusk, M.P., with forgery.—The prisoner had been a clerk to Messrs. Blake, Low, and Shea, solicitors, Arthur-street, City, since April last. On the 21st of October Mr. Shea, one of the firm, wrote a letter to Mr. John Peachcott, of Plymouth, solicitor, filling up and signing at the same time a cheque for £44 8s. 5d. on the London and County Bank, to be enclosed in the letter. He also crossed the cheque, and made it payable to Mr. Peachcott's order. The letter reached its destination, but not the cheque.—The prisoner's fellow clerk, Frederick Lester, was called as a witness, and proved that he took a copy of the letter addressed to Mr. Peachcott and of others, and laid the check on a desk while he did so, the prisoner saying he would address the envelopes. The prisoner afterwards laid the letters, including that addressed to Mr. Peachcott, on a desk, sealed, and witness posted them just as he had received them.—He did not see the cheque again after he laid it on the desk.—The prisoner, on being apprehended by Sergeant Spital in the Haymarket, first gave the name of Forsyth, and then admitted he was Charles Savidge.—The prisoner, on being cautioned as to anything he might choose to say, replied he had no defence to make.—Mr. Alderman Lusk committed him to Newgate for trial.

MANNERS AND HABITS OF THE ARISTOCRACY.

In the Court of Exchequer, the Lord Chief Baron with Barons Bramwell, Channell, and Pigott sitting in banco, the case of *Ryder v. Wombwell* has been under consideration. This was an action by Mr. Ryder, jeweller, in Bond-street, against the defendant, son of the late George Wombwell, Bart., for various articles which he had supplied to him from his shop.—The defendant pleaded infancy, and the question arose whether the goods were "necessaries." At the trial at Guildhall before the Lord Chief Baron, the jury found a verdict for the plaintiff in respect of certain of the articles, including a pair of crystal, ruby and diamond solitaires, £25; and a silver gilt antique goblet, with an engraved inscription, £15 15s., the latter having been presented by the defendant to the Marquis of Hastings, at whose house in the country he had been in the habit of staying. It appeared that the defendant had an income of £500 a year, and an expectancy of £20,000, and at the time of the transaction with the plaintiff he had incurred debts for jewellery with other tradesmen to the extent of £1,300. Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., now showed cause against a rule which had been obtained to enter a nonsuit, or to reduce the damages by such sum as the Court may think proper. He contended that the solitaires and silver gilt goblet were, looking at the position of the defendant, "necessaries" within the meaning of the different authorities on the subject, so as to render the defendant liable, notwithstanding the plea of infancy. He also submitted that the jury were the proper judges whether the articles were necessary for a young man like the defendant, when under age, and that the Court ought not to send down the case for another trial. The Lord Chief Justice said the jury allowed for the solitaires or shirt studs, thinking probably they were suitable and necessary for the defendant in his rank and station. With regard to the goblet they might also have been of opinion that it would have been mean-spirited if he had not made some present to the Marquis of Hastings whose hospitality he was frequently in the habit of enjoying. Mr. Baron Bramwell: "Supposing an 'infant' said to a nobleman, 'For your kindness to me I present you with a silver goblet which I have obtained on credit,' what do you think the nobleman would do with him and his present?" Mr. Coleridge: "I am not sufficiently acquainted with the manners and habits of the aristocracy to answer the question." Mr. Baron Bramwell: "I am not speaking of the manners and habits of the aristocracy, but merely putting the question by way of argument." Mr. Coleridge: "There was nothing to show that the nobleman in this case knew how or where the goblet had been obtained." Mr. Baron Bramwell: "My observation was a general one." The Lord Chief Baron: "I expressed no opinion as to whether the articles were necessaries, except with regard to the earrings, the claim for which I said could not be sustained. The jury did not allow for them, nor for a smelling bottle, which they might likewise have thought was intended for a lady." Mr. Coleridge, in conclusion, argued that the question was one entirely for the jury, and that the judge was not bound to direct a nonsuit. Mr. Pike was also heard against the rule. Mr. Bulwer, Q.C., in supporting the rule, observed that he could not give a more graphic description of the "road to ruin" than that which the career of the defendant must have presented to the mind of Mr. Ryder who had known him and his family for many years. He submitted that solitaires composed of diamonds and rubies could not be held to be necessaries, and that in no sense could a present of a silver goblet come under that category; and further, that the case was one which the judge ought to have withdrawn from the jury. Mr. Mayo followed on the same side.—The Court took time to consider their judgment.

AN ELEGANT COUGH REMEDY.—In our variable climate during the winter months coughs and colds appear the greatest enemies to mankind, and we are pleased to be able to draw the attention of sufferers to "Strange's Celebrated Balsam of Honey," which, as a cough remedy, stands unrivalled. Honey, in the form of a Balsamic preparation, is strongly recommended by the Faculty, our medical works, and by Dr. Pereira (late lecturer on medicine to the hospital).—See *Materia Medica*, vol. ii. page 1854. It will relieve the most irritating cough in a few minutes, and by its mildly stimulating action, gently discharges phlegm from the chest by easy expectoration, and restores the healthy action of the lungs. The amount of suffering at this time of the year is incalculable, and numbers, from the want of an effectual remedy at a low cost, have the germs of consumption laid. Sold by most chemists at 1s. 1d. per bottle, large size 2s. 3d. Prepared by P. Strange, operative chemist, 260, East street, Walworth. Agents: Messrs. Barclay, Farrington-street; Newberry, St. Paul's; J. Sanger, 50, Oxford-street; and Butler and Crispe, Cheapside.—[ADVT.]

THE ITALIAN HISTORY OF THE LAST MONTH.

A CORRESPONDENT at Florence, writing on the 8th inst., says:—"I am enabled, on very good authority, to send you a few facts which will throw some light on the perplexed history of the last month. M. Rattazzi's determination to connive at the incursions of the Garibaldians on Papal territory was, I am assured, arrived at in consequence of the advice of Prince Napoleon and the reports sent from Biarritz by M. Nigra. The Prince strongly recommended the Italian Government not to ask anything of France, but to advance boldly to Rome, and thus create a fait accompli which France would not venture to disturb. As for M. Nigra, the following was the enigmatical reply which he obtained from the Emperor to his arguments urging the necessity of an immediate solution of the Roman question:—"Il ne faut pas compromettre ma politique. Cependant, je resterai à Biarritz." These words were interpreted at Florence as giving a tacit consent to the settlement of the question being undertaken by Italy, and recruiting offices for Garibaldian volunteers were immediately afterwards opened publicly both in the capital and the other principal towns. As, however, Republican tendencies had been observed among many of the volunteers, the Government organized a corps of its own, officered from the regular army, which acted with the Garibaldians. This corps, commanded by Major Ghirelli, actually entered the Papal States, but when its commandant proclaimed Victor Emmanuel at Orte his men left him in a body, and joined the bands commanded by Menotti Garibaldi; Ghirelli then returned to Florence. Meanwhile the Government got everything ready for crossing the Papal frontier. The King ordered his troops to occupy Velletri and Viterbo, and General Ricotti proceeded to the army with his staff to take the chief command, when a telegram arrived at the Palace from Prince Napoleon stating that French intervention had been decided upon in the Cabinet Council at St. Cloud, and that he and M. de Lavalette had alone voted against it. Victor Emmanuel, alarmed, then sent for Rattazzi, and requested him to postpone the order to cross the frontier. Rattazzi urged upon the King the bad policy of such a step, saying that if would alienate the people from the Government, and that the intervention was merely a threat which would never be fulfilled if Italy marched on to Rome; and finding the King was immovable, resigned. What followed is well known. I will only add that in the battle of Monte Rotondo the Papal troops chiefly consisted of Frenchmen of the Antibes Legion. The prisoners taken by Garibaldi were sent to Florence, and it was somewhat startling to see men in the French uniform, many with the order of the Legion of Honour on their breasts, being taken as captives through the streets of the Italian capital."

READING ALOUD.

THE art of reading aloud would appear to be one of the most difficult things in the world, if we were to judge solely by the frequency, or rather infrequency, with which we meet with anyone capable of exercising it with pleasure to the auditors. A given man, who shall speak well and so as to interest and secure the attention of his hearers, if he happens to have something to read, shall instantly become tedious, unintelligible, possibly inaudible. Even those whose profession constantly involves the art of reading aloud, seldom manage to make a respectable appearance when they have to acquit themselves of their duty. The bad reading of clergymen is almost proverbial, and we have heard it said as a reproach—"Why, you read like a curate!"

The question of the cause of all this has recently been much agitated, and various remedies have been proposed; among others, the establishing at Cambridge of prizes for good reading. These prizes, if they were competed for, might probably produce much of the desired effect, for they would necessitate some attention to the subject, and the giving of some training in the art. Reading aloud is, as a rule, badly done because people have had little or no practice in it; and also because they imagine that, like gig-driving, or housekeeping, or teaching, or being the manager of a theatre, it is one of those things which everybody can do, and the accomplishment of which is the result of a species of instinct. Now, with reading, as with all the various occupations enumerated, the effort to effect it without training or practice generally results in total failure.

Girls and women, as a rule, read better than boys and men, we are told; and that is undoubtedly true.

A great deal of bad reading results from self-consciousness on the part of the reader. He thinks too much of himself, and too little of the author, whose ideas he ought to be trying to render. Hence result much slovenliness and inarticulateness. Women and girls, perhaps, are more painstaking and careful, and think less of themselves, the appearance they are making, and the effect they are producing, than do men and boys. Or it may be that they have a stronger desire to please, and therefore exert themselves more to do so.

Good reading requires careful enunciation, and readers are sometimes very heedless about this. A slipshod method of dealing with final letters, has a great deal to answer for in producing a want of intelligibility in reading. Connected with this comes the need for taking time in reading aloud. In reading for themselves people rapidly take in impressions by the eye; but in reading aloud the impressions have to be conveyed in a much slower manner. A very celebrated reader is reported to have said, that the whole secret of good reading consisted in taking time.

A good reader understands also the art of managing the voice. Sometimes a knowledge of the mode of doing this appears almost intuitive. But in any case, practice and observation must be had recourse to, to avoid painful overstraining of the voice on the one hand, or inaudible mumbling on the other.

Above everything, however, the reader must have sense and power of appreciating the author whose works are being read. Without intelligence there can be no good reading, though even with it the desired good result is not always arrived at. Practice and patience in reading aloud will effect very much, and nothing can well be done without them.

The pleasure of hearing good reading is very great, and people will flock to listen to the professors of the art. There is no valid reason, however, why good reading should be so rare a thing, if sufficient pains were bestowed in the acquisition of the power. The practice ought to be begun when children are young, and should be continued, not as a by-the-way occurrence, but as a matter of regular and recognized exercise. The reading voice is as worthy of being trained as the singing voice, and the efforts made in the one case more often meet with good results than in the other. To all who care for good reading, we would recommend early, careful training, and constant practice.—*Queen.*

M. JULES RICHARD writes from Rome to the *Figaro*:—"Amongst the originalities of this last campaign I have learnt one which deserves to be embalmed in history. An Englishman follows the Garibaldian forces. He is armed with a rifle of excessively long range, and made expressly for long shots; to this weapon is fitted a small telescope, and a reflecting mirror permits our Englishman to sweep the country to a distance of 1,800 yards. Comfortably installed on a height out of reach of the enemy's shot, he picks off men in an artistic manner, just as a sportsman shoots down larks. This sanguinary eccentric keeps a sporting book in which he jots down the exact circumstances of every homicide which he commits. He has no political opinions; he is a simple slayer of men; but as no regular army would permit such 'sporting' he attaches himself to the irregular Garibaldian bands. From the position he occupied at Mentana there is every reason to believe that it was he that killed young Julian (Watts) Russell, of whom I spoke in my last letter."

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY.

GEORGE FRITCHARD, a good-looking boy of 15, was charged with a robbery.

The prosecutor was Mr. Charles Rogers, a licensed carman, in partnership with his father. On the afternoon of Wednesday last, about three o'clock, he called at his office in Lower Thames-street, in a light spring cart, drawn by a high-spirited mare, which he left for a few minutes in the street unattended, while he asked if any letters were there for him. On returning to the street the horse and cart, to his surprise, had gone, and were nowhere to be seen. Upon that he despatched four men in as many different directions in search of them, but in vain. They returned without any tidings of the horse and cart, and he forthwith gave information of his loss at the Seething-lane Police-station. On Friday, in consequence of a letter addressed to him, he went to Chatham, and there saw his horse and cart at the Green-yard, in the charge of the police. There, too, he saw the boy Fritchard in custody on the charge of stealing them. The boy made a voluntary statement to the effect that he bought for a penny a boy's "chance" who had been minding the horse and cart in Thames-street. The owner, by the way, had left nobody in charge of them. The prisoner went on saying that, finding no one came to claim the horse and cart, he thought he would take a drive, and he did so in the direction of Whitechapel. On passing along Dog-row, Mile-end, he picked up four little boys, entire strangers to him, whom he had asked to have a ride. Mr. Rogers also found the four boys at Chatham, with the prisoner, but not in custody. They were all between the age of nine and twelve years, and were in a pitiable state from hunger and cold on arriving there. He found that the mare, which was a fast-trotting animal, had been thrown down, and the spring cart upset. He had left his topcoat and a horse-cloth in the cart, and those he found all safe.

Mr. Alderman Lusk asked who had paid the turnpikes.

Mr. Rogers replied that prisoner had told him that on being challenged at a turnpike he drove through without stopping, telling the man on duty he had passed through that day before.

William Walter, one of the Kent constabulary, stationed at Shore, about three miles and a half south-east of Gravesend, was called as a witness. He said between midnight and one o'clock on the morning of Thursday, while on duty, a man whom he had met said he had seen five boys down the road, and in a state which had induced him to leave a man in charge of them. He went there, and found the prisoner and four little boys in a cart, which was drawn up by the side of the road, and the horse grazing. The four boys were all sound asleep, and the horse had been thrown down. The prisoner, on being asked how he came by the horse and cart, told, what the witness called, "a rambling story," to the effect that a man had asked him to mind them; that he did so for about an hour, and that as the man did not return he thought he would take a drive, which he did, towards Whitechapel, where he picked up the four boys, and then thought he would drive to Deptford. He afterwards missed his way. In the end, witness got into the cart and drove the prisoner and the four boys to Chatham, a distance of six miles, where he gave all five into custody. On Friday they were taken before the magistrate there, when the four little boys were discharged, and the prisoner was ordered to be taken to London to be dealt with by the Lord Mayor.

Mr. Rogers, the owner of the horse and cart, said that when the animal reached Chatham it dropped down in the stable.

Partridge, the gaoler, in reply to the Bench, said he thought he had seen the prisoner there before, but was not sure.

The prisoner, in answer to a question, said his father made polishing powder, and he sold it. The four little boys were in court, in wretched plight. The prisoner was remanded.

FEARFUL COLLISION.

ACCOUNTS have been received of a terrible collision at sea between the ships Esmok, 858 tons register, commanded by Captain McKerr, of Liverpool, and the French ship Alma, 1,200 tons, belonging to Havre, both sustaining damage to that serious extent that they soon foundered. The Esmok was outward bound to Calcutta, with a cargo of salt, having sailed from Liverpool on the 2nd November. On the morning of the 6th, the captain left the deck in charge of the chief officer, whose watch it was. It was then about half-past four o'clock. Before leaving he looked round the horizon and could see nothing but sky and sea. He did not turn in, but smoked his pipe before the cabin fire. In about a quarter of an hour he heard a shout on deck of a ship ahead. He jumped up on deck, and ran to the man at the helm to assist him in getting it over, as the order was to starboard; but instantly a large ship ran into them between the knightheads, staying in the bow, and she then dropped alongside, and both bumped against each other tremendously, for a gale of wind was blowing and a heavy sea. It was some time before they separated, when it was discovered that they had sustained serious damage as to both sinking. The Esmok was the first to go down; the crew had taken to the boats and made for the Frenchman, thinking she was safe. They then made for a Dutch vessel, which picked them up, which afterwards made for the Alma, and succeeded in saving her crew. The Alma appears to have had no lights burning; the Esmok had. Both were insured.

MEDICAL ATTAINMENTS.—The following advertisement, which we extract from the *Times*, is a novelty. How the medical authorities in New York are to test the medical qualifications of a clergyman residing in Kent it is difficult to imagine. It is not, however, difficult to imagine what the diploma obtained from them by the Rev. Mr. Corbett is worth:—DEGREES.—Upon the requisite evidence given by the Rev. G. O. Corbett, Minister, Kent, of his medical attainments and qualification, the degree of Doctor in Medicine has been conferred upon him at New York on the 1st of November, 1867.

HYSTERICISM IN THE CATHOLIC PRESS.

HYSTERICISM is as often caused by joy as by grief and fear. Hence, the hysterical uproar which the Roman Catholic press is raising in consequence of the marvels wrought by the French Chassepots against the Garibaldians at Monte Rotondo. No sane person doubts that if the Emperor Napoleon had stood aloof, Garibaldi would have at the present moment been in Rome, and the Pope God knows where, in spite of French Legitimacy which has rallied round the Holy Father's standard; no sane person ever supposed that the ill-armed and half-starved Garibaldians could hold their own against the trained regulars of France. Yet in exulting over the discomfiture of Garibaldi, the Catholic press utterly ignores the assistance the Pontifical troops received from the French, and overwhelms Garibaldi himself with volleys of Billingsgate, which show that in the use of that weapon they are no unworthy antagonists of the lecturer Murphy, by whose latitude of language they are sorely aggrieved. The *Weekly Register* actually accuses Garibaldi of rank cowardice, because forsooth when he retired from Mentana he did not carry away with him the bodies of the 6,000 Garibaldians who fell in that battle! The facts, however, remain that, assailed by 2,000 French regulars and 3,000 Pontificals, Garibaldi defended himself until nightfall, losing 600 men, and finding that he would have to do with the whole French army the next day, evacuated his position during the night. Whatever may be said as to the unwisdom of his conduct during his recent campaign, nothing has occurred during that eventful time to lessen his prestige as a leader of irregulars. A brave, sincere, and honest man, all who know him, know him to be; of his prudence and his sagacity many doubt, but the peculiarity of his position and mission renders it difficult to measure his possession of these qualities by ordinary rules.

THE following announcement extracted from the Italian papers is interesting:—"To be let, with immediate possession, the Island of Caprea, a very suitable retreat for any ex-Dictator; a stern patriot of simple and temperate habits, who may be out of employ, and wishes for a quiet place in which to write his own memoirs preferred." Why does not Mr. Edmund Beales, M.A., hide his venerable head there? Or let the great E. T. Smith, take it and establish a Mediterranean Crematorium there. The "Garibaldi Grotto" would no look bad in the bills. "Grand display of fireworks every night, ending with a beautiful design representing the Pope and Cardinals consumed in the flames of Revolution!" This would be sure to draw the usual kind of patrons—fools!—*Tomahawk.*

THE following is from a Constantinople letter dated Nov. 2:—"Mr. Elliott, the recently-arrived ambassador, has had an audience of the Sultan to present his letter of credence, and on the 31st ult. he received the British residents at the embassy in Pera. In consequence of the wet weather the attendance was remarkably thin. In the evening his Excellency was entertained at a grand banquet by Fuad Pasha. Photiades Bey (a Greek rayah), the Ottoman Minister at Athens, who has been here for some time, was among the invited; the latter diplomat has recently been decorated with the first-class Osmanli. On the 31st Baron Prokesch-Osten, whose rank as internuncio has been raised to Ambassador of the Emperor of Austria, presented his credentials to the Sultan."

THE VALUE OF SHORT HORNS.—The "Short-horn Intelligence" of a contemporary says that the value of the pure Dutch blood is saliently illustrated by the fact that Captain Gunter, who is so fortunate as to possess that strain, is selling his bull calves at 500 guineas apiece as fast as he can breed them. At that price he has lately disposed of two—viz., 2nd Duke of Collingham out of Duchess 84 by 3rd Duke of Wharfedale, and Duke of Tregunter, also by 3rd Duke of Wharfedale, out of Duchess 93. Mr. Rich, of Diddam, Gloucestershire, purchased the first, and Mr. Roberts, of Lillingstone Darrell, Bucks, the second. Captain Gunter has still one bull calf on sale, the 5th Duke of Wharfedale out of Duchess 86. Rosedale, the six-year-old cow bred by Lady Pigot, and purchased at the Duke of Montrose's sale in August last for 225 guineas, has arrived safely at Montreal, having calved on her passage out. She was purchased for Mr. Cochrane, of Lower Canada, as was a 200 guinea bull calf—Knight of St. George, by Prince of the Realm out of Windsor's Queen.

A GOOD DEFINITION OF NIHILISM.—Prince Peter Dolgoroukoff has given a good definition of "Nihilism" in Russia, concerning which Mr. Schedo-Ferrotti published some months ago a volume of formidable dimensions. "Nihilism," he says, "is of two kinds. There is the Nihilism of those who have nothing in their pockets, and the Nihilism of those who have nothing in their heads."

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